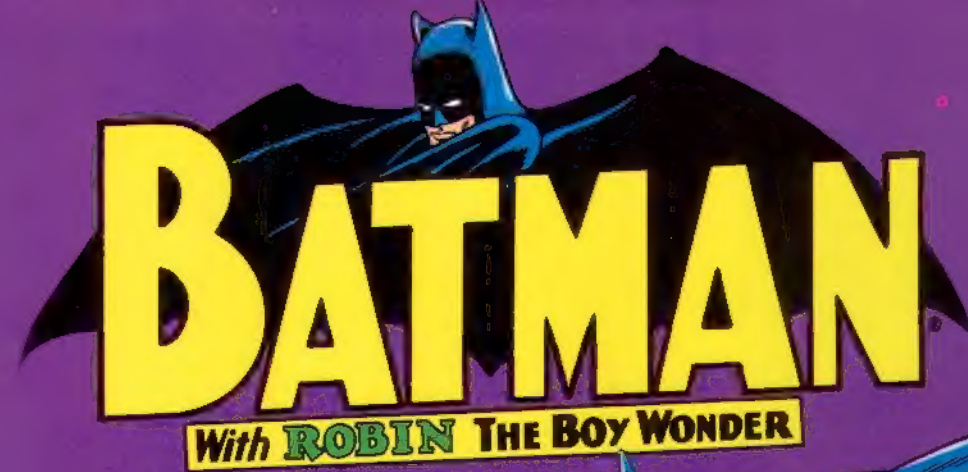
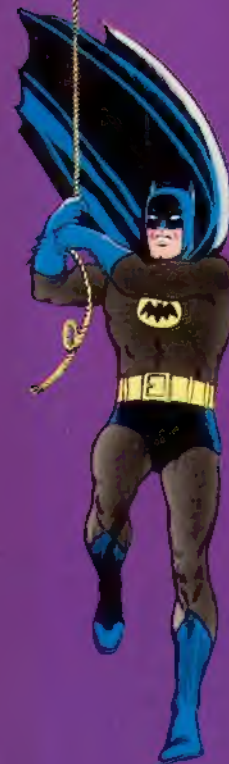




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INFANTINO
ANDERSON

BATMAN

With **ROBIN** THE BOY WONDER

FROM
THE
30's
TO THE
70's



INFANTINO
ANDERSON



FROM THE THIRTIES TO THE SEVENTIES

With 36 Pages in Full Color
including 37 original covers
in Full Color

Introduction by E. NELSON BRIDWELL

IN 1937 A BRAND-NEW SUPERHERO was born — one of the first of the new crime-busters and certainly one of the most durable. His name was THE BATMAN and his earliest spectacular adventures, as well as his contemporary exploits, are all re-created in **BATMAN: FROM THE THIRTIES TO THE SEVENTIES**. The Batman was a dark mysterious character of the night, stalking the streets, defying criminals with superhuman deeds of derring-do, and terrifying enemies and police alike. According to his creator, Bob Kane, The Batman was a combination Zorro, Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., The Scarlet Pimpernel, The Shadow, Mary Roberts Rinehart's The Bat, Sherlock Holmes, and Houdini all rolled into one. Like The Pimpernel, The Batman had a secret identity, that of Bruce Wayne, wealthy playboy. The disguise was particularly useful, for in the early days of the strip The Batman dealt out his own brand of justice, killing villains without any thought of trial. Robin, The Boy Wonder, was a latecomer to the legend. He was added a year after The Batman first appeared. To Bob Kane, he seemed a natural — a hero the kids could identify with. Whatever the reason, the combination worked beyond anyone's expectations.

Forty years later, Batman and Robin are still thrilling their faithful fans. **BATMAN: FROM THE THIRTIES TO THE SEVENTIES** relives that spectacular world of the early comic books with over twenty-five action-packed stories, fifty original cover reproductions, an exciting introduction by E. Nelson Bridwell, writer and editor of *The Batman* newspaper strip, and a complete bibliography of all The Batman's appearances. Nostalgia lovers everywhere will be delighted by these early hair-raising tales of **The Joker, The Riddler, The Penguin, Two-Face, Catwoman** and many, many others. This is indeed a collector's delight, a must for all who followed the strip from its earliest days and for anyone interested in unique Americana.



FROM THE THIRTIES TO THE SEVENTIES

With 36 Pages in Full Color
including 26 original covers
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Introduction by E. NELSON BRIDWELL

FOR ALL THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN STIRRED to breathless excitement by the daring exploits of Superman, the comic strip's mightiest hero, here is a rare collector's classic adventure, spanning forty years, and never before published in book form. **SUPERMAN: FROM THE THIRTIES TO THE SEVENTIES** is a thrilling journey into the past, a stunning documentary of Superman's life from his first appearance in *Action Comics* in 1938 to the hip, committed Superman of the Seventies.

Here are all the memorable "firsts" in Superman's history: the first story that revealed Superman's origins, the first time Lois Lane suspected Clark Kent of being Superman, the first appearance of Red Kryptonite, and many, many more. The book traces Superman's undisputed reign as champion of the comic strip with twenty-eight full stories, including the first ever written, and fifty covers. Revealing the fascinating ways in which the character of Superman has changed with the times, this extraordinary volume highlights his early fight against crime, his herculean feats of strength, and his unprecedented chivalry, and contrasts them with his recent involvement with the relevant issues of student riots, drug abuse, and the peace movement. **SUPERMAN: FROM THE THIRTIES TO THE SEVENTIES** is a nostalgic tour de force, an enthralling escape into an idealistic world of superhuman power and transcendent goodness. With a delightful introduction by E. Nelson Bridwell, editor of the *National Periodical Comics*, a bibliography listing all the places that Superman has appeared, and a wealth of artwork, the book will appeal to all Superman lovers, collectors, and nostalgia buffs, as well as to everyone interested in "truth, justice, and the American way."

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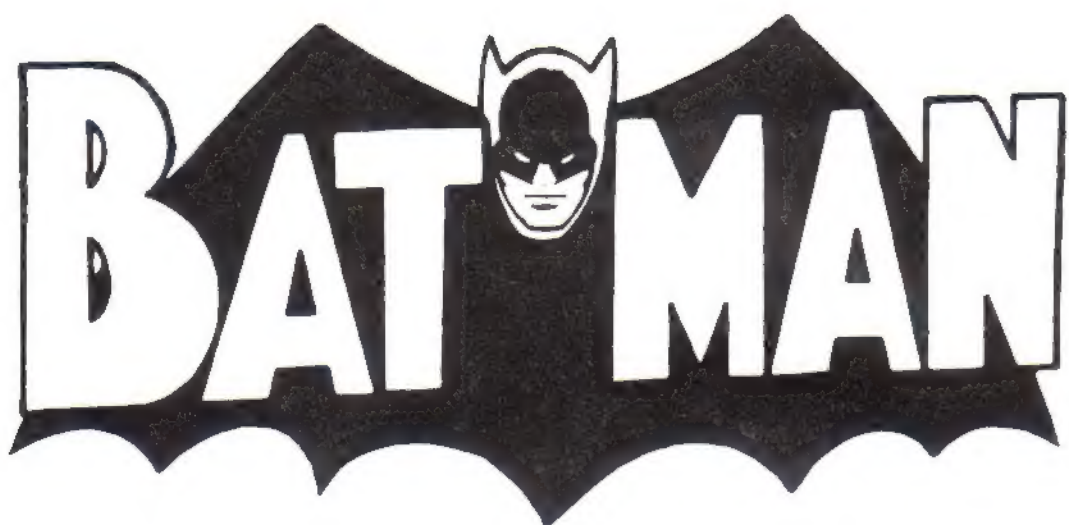
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FROM THE 30s TO THE 70s

Introduction by

E. NELSON BRIDWELL

Editor and Writer of Batman newspaper strip

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DEDICATION

BATMAN! It was your first public appearance some forty years ago that changed the life of a young shoeshine boy into the artist that drew you, then into the editor that directed you, and finally your publisher.

My sincerest thanks for a lifetime career that has surpassed anything my imagination could have conceived.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink. The first part of the signature reads 'Carmine' in a cursive script. The second part reads 'Infantino' in a more bold, expressive cursive style, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

CARMINE INFANTINO
PUBLISHER

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INTRODUCTION

by

E. Nelson Bridwell

I don't remember the date . . . or the exact year . . . of that fantastic occurrence. I know I was a fan of the "Superman" radio show, and on this particular day Superman found a wounded boy in a drifting rowboat—a boy clad in a red vest and yellow cape.

It was, of course, Robin, the Boy Wonder!

And thus began the fabulous Superman-Batman team.

Somehow, the two heroes seemed destined to wind up working together. Yet, at that time—in the mid-forties—they had never really done so. True, they'd been regulars in *World's Finest Comics* since its inception, but, though the two (and Robin) were featured together on the covers, they starred in separate stories inside. Both were honorary members of the Justice Society of America, but so far they had made only a brief appearance with that hero group (in *All Star Comics*), popping in for a couple of panels.

Now, on radio, the team had finally been born. Soon, Batman and Superman knew each other's identities (though Robin did not then share in the knowledge that the Man of Steel was Clark Kent), and they often helped each other ward off identity-seekers. One actor who played Batman was Gary Merrill.

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Not until the fifties would Superman and Batman again team up. But that will have to wait. I have first to tell you of the origin of the Caped Crime-fighter.

Detective Comics had brought a new concept to comics in 1937. Prior to that time, comic books had been largely confined to reprints from the newspaper strips. *Detective* came up with all-new features—and all geared in one direction—*detection*! The magazine was successful, but boasted no really big guns. Then, in 1938, DC (named for *Detective Comics*) brought out *Action Comics*, which changed the comics world again, with Superman.

A new craze hit comics now—superheroes. Either the hero had fantastic powers, or he wore a colorful, circus costume—or both (I should say, *usually* both). One of the first of the new crimebusters, and the most durable after Superman himself, was The Batman.

Notice that this time I said *The* Batman. It was the usual way of referring to him at the time. Then he was a mysterious figure of the night. Later, when he became more of a public character, he was just good ol' Batman. Only recently has the article been restored, as the strange creature of darkness has been reborn.

Just where did The Batman come from? True, he wore a skintight costume, like Superman's—except that The Batman wore a cowl, and his cape resembled batwings. True, he, too, had a secret identity—and he fought crime. But there were vast differences.

For one thing, The Batman had no superpowers. He relied on his superb athletic skill, his cunning, and the terror he instilled in criminals to carry him through. And his costume, unlike most, was somber, designed to blend in with the night.

Secret identities were, after all, nothing new. The Scarlet Pimpernel had been Sir Percy Blakeney, darling of society, in Baroness Orczy's books. El Zorro had been Don Diego Vega, wealthy young poet, in Johnston McCulley's tales. There had even been a Romberg operetta *The Desert Song*, which concerned Pierre Birabeau, son of a general, who, disguised as The Red Shadow, led the Riffs in revolt against his own father. The Batman certainly followed this tradition, with his secret identity of playboy Bruce Wayne.

It is notable that the first actor to portray Zorro on the screen was Douglas

Fairbanks, Sr. For Fairbanks was one of the inspirations for The Batman, as Bob Kane, the Masked Manhunter's creator, has often stated. It was this movie hero's derring-do that was responsible for Kane's creation's becoming an "acro-Batman."

The Shadow was another hero of Kane's, and he contributed the image of a cloaked avenger, slipping through the shadows of a great city at night. But aside from his cloak and slouch hat, The Shadow had always dressed like any other man. The Batman took his costume not only from the Superman image, but also from the villain in a movie version of Mary Roberts Rinehart's *The Bat*, made in 1926. This awesome bat costume stuck in Kane's mind and was eventually transferred to his hero.

But The Batman is more than all these. He is a first-rate detective and escape artist. He is, in short, The Scarlet Pimpernel, Zorro, Fairbanks, The Shadow, The Bat, Sherlock Holmes, and Houdini, all rolled into one.

And his name was Bruce Wayne—strikingly similar to the name of the young man who created him. Wish fulfillment? Kane admits as much. The Batman was what he'd like to be; he rightly guessed that others would feel the same.

Today The Batman works hand in hand with the law; but it was not always the case. Look at the first story in this book and you will see him being hunted by the police, who resented this mystery man's taking the law into his own hands. And he did it—in quite striking ways. More than one murderer was done away with by the Cowled Crimebuster in those early days. But that was the tradition of the times. Many a superhero killed with no compunction if he felt the victim deserved it. No fooling around with habeas corpus or trial by jury or the fifth amendment. The heroes dealt out their own brand of justice quickly and efficiently. No wonder they needed secret identities!

But time went on and The Batman became more of a public figure—especially after the addition of Robin. How can a man go creeping around, blending with the shadows, when he has a kid in a red, yellow, and green costume trailing along behind him? In retrospect, it seems an unlikely combination—yet it worked!

Whence Robin? Actually, the idea of a boy fighting alongside an adult hero was nothing new in children's literature. It had even entered the area of the comic strip—notably in Caniff's *Dickie Dare* and *Terry and the Pirates*. But in all these cases, the kid was the main character. Here, Robin was

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added as an afterthought, a year after The Batman made his debut. His name and his costume were inspired by Robin Hood. To Bob Kane, he seemed a natural—a hero the kids could identify with. It was the wish fulfillment of Kane's childhood, as The Batman was the wish fulfillment of his teen years.

(I might add here that, despite the resemblance of the name to his creator's, Bruce Wayne is said to be taken from Robert the Bruce, the heroic Scottish king, and "Mad" Anthony Wayne, the Revolutionary War hero.)

In planning Robin's debut (which appears on page 64), a careful plot was worked out which would make him a natural as The Batman's aide. He needed acrobatic training, so he was made an aerialist in a circus. His parents having been killed, Bruce Wayne took him in—thus the team was formed.

The idea was a hit. It was widely copied, with The Shield and Dusty, Captain America and Bucky, The Green Arrow and Speedy, The Wizard and Roy, T.N.T. and Dan the Dyna-Mite, The Sandman and Sandy—and so on. There was even the ultimate switch—the Star-Spangled Kid, a teenage hero, and his adult aide Stripesy. One thing was a bit puzzling. Why was it that the kid always had to be the ward of his partner? This had been necessary in the case of The Batman and Robin because Bruce's life had been pretty well sketched out, and he had no son or kid brother. Why was this always slavishly followed? Who knows?

I would like now to deal with one of the most irresponsible slurs ever cast upon our heroes. A certain psychiatrist decided that a man and a boy living together spelled homosexuality. Unfortunately, many people eagerly seized on this view especially the gay set themselves. Today, when a comedian calls someone Bruce, you can almost bet he means the guy is a swishy character. Yet nothing could be further from the truth.

Other heroes have a girl friend. Not so with Bruce Wayne. When I say he's a playboy, I mean it. There was Julie Madison, who was his fiancée for a time before and after Robin came on the scene. She was succeeded by Linda Page, a society girl who turned to nursing to be of some service to the world. Then came Vicki Vale, news photographer, in the late forties (a too-obvious copy of Lois Lane), who was continually trying to ferret out The Batman's secret identity. Next, The Batwoman appeared—like Robin an ex-circus star. (So why was The Batman the one who spotted the fact that she spoke circus slang, when Robin should have caught on at once? Probably a scripting job with insufficient research.) Vicki and The Bat-

woman were rivals for The Batman for a time. When they faded, anything like a permanent romance faded, too. There have been plenty of girls, but obviously, Bruce doesn't hanker to be tied down to any *one* female. Batgirl has a beau of her own now, and any girl who really catches the Caped Crusader's eye generally fades like the phantom female in "The Demon of Gothos Mansion"—the last story in this book.

Heretofore, I have referred only to Bob Kane; yet he was but one of the many persons whose creative talent went to make up the Batman Legend. With The Batman appearing in *Detective Comics*, *World's Finest Comics*, and *Batman*, as well as a newspaper strip which started in 1943, he couldn't even do all the artwork. Jerry Robinson, Mort Meskin, Dick Sprang, Carmine Infantino, Win Mortimer, and Jim Mooney were some of the many artists who drew The Batman from time to time—although Bob Kane, as the creator, always had his name on it.

And Kane did not write the stories, though he often had a hand in creating the characters in them. One of the chief writers of The Batman for many years—in fact, *the* chief one—was Bill Finger. One sure sign of a Finger script was the presence of gigantic working models of everyday objects. They might be outdoor signs or indoor displays, but they were exact replicas of their smaller originals. His giant sewing machines really sewed; his giant phonographs played; and his giant paint tubes were chock full of real paint, ready to squirt in the Joker's face.

The Joker! Of all the villains The Batman has ever faced, this is the greatest. He is the perfect blend of clownish humor and malevolent evil. I have heard Bill Finger tell just how the character came to be created. It seems Bill got a call from Bob Kane. He had an idea for a villain Bill could use in the comics. He was a clownish looking man, but a killer. However, when Bill saw Bob's sketch, he decided it looked *too* clownish. He happened to have a movie edition of Victor Hugo's *The Man Who Laughs*, with stills from the 1928 film starring Conrad Veidt. The story concerns Gwynplaine, an English nobleman stolen as an infant and turned into a carnival freak by having a perpetual laugh carved on his face. The makeup used by Veidt was perfect, and this inspired the Joker's grinning countenance.

Other villains quickly followed, including the Penguin, the Catwoman (who started as a "plainclothes" jewel thief called The Cat), Tweedledum and Tweedledee, Punch and Judy, and Two-Face. This last was probably one of the best villains ever created. His name was Harvey Kent in the first stories, but was later changed to Dent, probably because of The Batman's buddy

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Clark Kent. Originally, there were but three Two-Face stories, ending with Kent submitting to plastic surgery, serving time in prison, and then re-forming. There was a different Two-Face in the newspaper strip. In this one, he was not a district attorney, but an actor—and he ended by falling, catching his neck in some wires, and being hanged. The magazines had at least two fake Two-Faces (one of whom is in this book) before the original suffered an accident that restored his hideous countenance (another tale in this volume). Recently, Two-Face has come back to bedevil The Batman (in *Batman* #234).

The Riddler appeared briefly—but in only two stories in the forties. He was destined for revival much later. The Scarecrow was another early Batman villain who has been brought back in recent years.

Besides appearing on radio with Superman, The Batman and Robin also starred in two movie serials. The first, titled simply *Batman*, had a few disappointments for purists—since Lewis Wilson wore a costume somewhat less than skintight (no real outfit could match those in the comics, which looked like they'd been painted on) Also, the ears on his cowl looked too much like a devil's horns. Still, he and Douglas Croft (as Robin) did well enough in this 1943 Columbia production. And the actor who portrayed their butler Alfred was perfect. However, I've heard it said that Alfred lost weight and grew a moustache in the comics to resemble his screen version. That may be true—still, it was nice to have an Alfred who did *not* look like Arthur Treacher. The main fault of the picture, however, was the blatant racism with which it attacked the Japanese. Not only was J. Carroll Naish, as Dr. Daka, incredibly villainous, but the narration applauded the internment of Nisei by the U.S. government on the stated grounds that *all* Japs were devils. When the picture was rereleased as a feature in the sixties, this stood out terribly.

The Dynamic Duo had one more screen appearance before the decade ended—in another Columbia serial, *Batman and Robin*. I haven't seen it myself, but those who have report it was more filled with scientific gadgetry than the first.

As the forties faded and the fifties flew in, comic books were changing. The costumed heroes were dropping like flies in favor of everything from romance to horror. Even Wonder Woman lost two of the three magazines in which she had regularly appeared. Only two heroes had the stamina to keep going during that period—Superman and The Batman. Aquaman and The Green Arrow hung on—but only because they were backup features

in magazines that starred the Man of Steel and the Gotham Goliath. Both had, from the first issue, been starred in *World's Finest Comics*. They had finally teamed in a lead story in *Superman* (See the *Superman* book, published by Crown, for this story). Now, when *World's Finest* was reduced in both pages and price, the two heroes began to star in a series of adventures as a team. This time, unlike the radio series, Robin was let in on Superman's secret identity. Some of the Superman-Batman series are included in this volume.

The fifties brought many additions to the Batman family. There was The Batwoman, The Bat-Hound, and even Bat Mite, a magical being from another dimension who hero-worshiped The Batman. The worst feature of the late fifties was turning Batman into a science-fiction feature, complete with space travel and creatures of all sorts. This went over okay in *World's Finest*, with Superman, who had always been an s-f character—but without him, Batman and Robin, that “The” had largely been dropped by this time, were out of their element. Since the forties, they had been taking time trips through hypnosis, now, they were using a conventional time machine.

Batman's image remained unchanged from this at the start of the sixties, and things became more complicated with the introduction of the first Batgirl. A teenager, she was Batwoman's niece. You'll find her first adventure on page 255.

Then, in 1964, Batman did an about-face. His stories were a bit more realistic. The old stairway to the Batcave gave way to a new elevator. Batman now sported a yellow circle around his bat insignia. And the Bat signal was largely replaced by the new hot line. Poor Alfred was killed off and replaced in the Wayne household by Dick's Aunt Harriet.

And then, in 1966, Batman became the first costumed crimebuster to have his own television show in *prime time*! Unfortunately for Batman fans, the series was deliberately campy. Many of the villains they used—such as The Bookworm, Ma Parker, Shame, Egghead—never appeared in the comics. Mr. Zero became Mr. Freeze; the Catwoman forgot—at least for a while—that she was supposed to have a crush on the Caped Crusader; the Joker was betrayed by his close-ups—his moustache showed under his makeup. Yet despite the absurdities, the TV series made the Dynamic Duo more famous than ever.

It spawned spin-offs, including two paperback novels (published by Signet) and a movie feature (one of the novels being taken from the script). When

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the live series was dropped, a cartoon series was done for the Saturday-morning kiddie crowd.

And the new Batgirl was born! She was Barbara Gordon, daughter of Commissioner Gordon. Now minus her glasses and bun, Babs holds forth in her own feature in *Detective Comics*. One other thing came from the TV show. Alfred was brought back to life—it turned out he had not died, but had been changed into a monstrous form and was the mysterious Outsider who had been plaguing Batman.

As the sixties ended, a new change came about. Robin went to college! Bruce Wayne then moved to a penthouse in Gotham City and founded the Victims, Incorporated, Program (V.I.P.)—all of which you can see beginning on page 299. This was followed soon after by the reappearance of the dark, avenging figure of mystery called *The Batman*!! (See page 337.) Robin continued with his own feature—first in *Detective*, then in *Batman*. (He had done some soloing back around 1950, in *Star Spangled Comics*.) Man-Bat came on the scene, too (see page 353). By the way, he did *not* die; in “The Bride of Man-Bat,” his sweetheart was changed into a creature like himself before Batman restored them both.

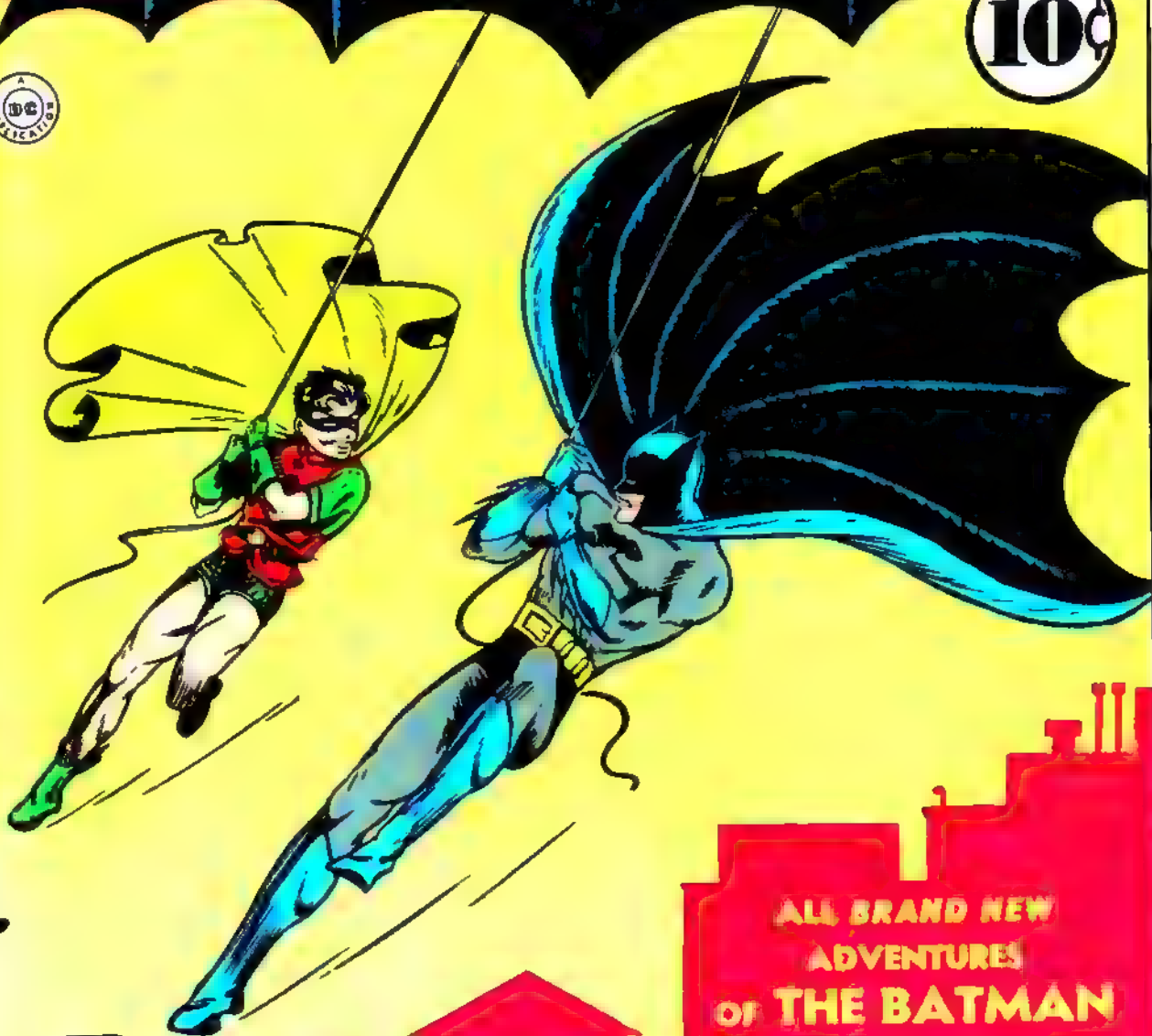
There’s only one thing to add. The Batman newspaper strip was dropped many years ago; but with the advent of the TV series, a new Batman strip was created. It’s still running in papers all over the world—and I’m proud to say that since last year, I have been writing the scripts for it! That kid that thrilled when The Batman came on the Superman show never dreamed that one day he’d be handling his hero’s exploits. Wow!

No .1

SPRING ISSUE

BATMAN

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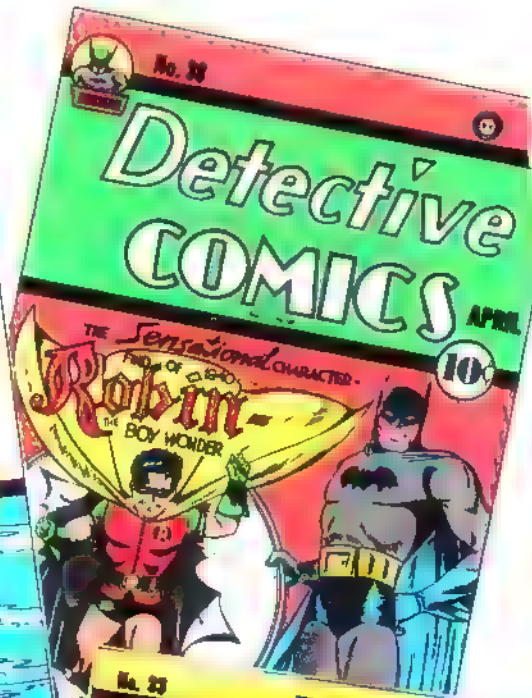
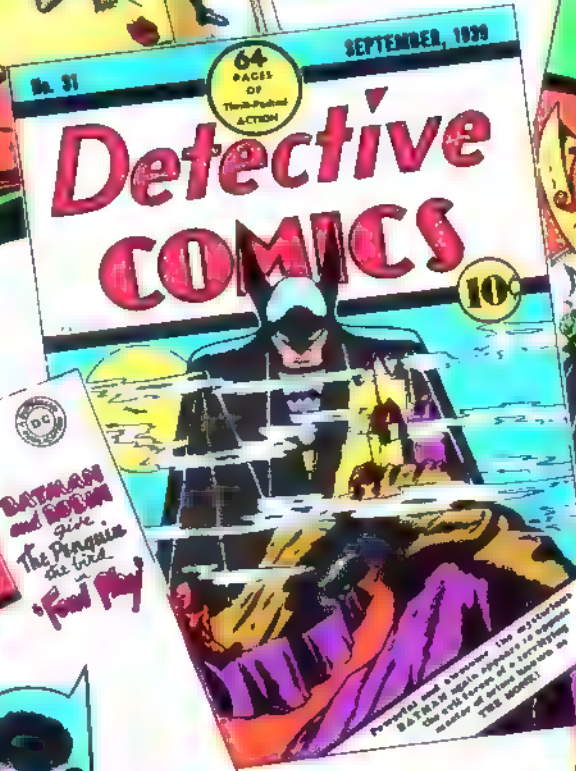


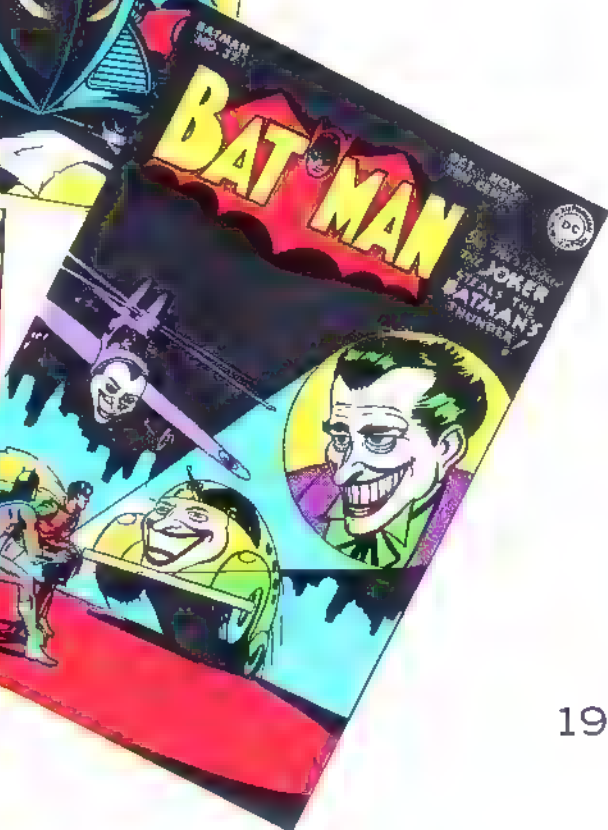
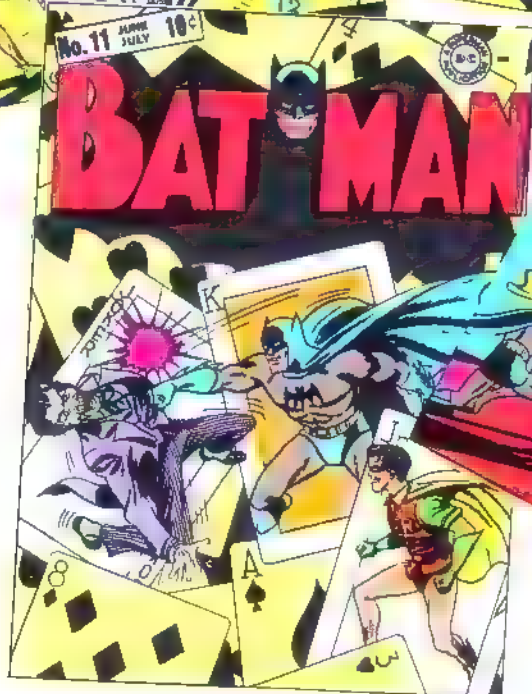
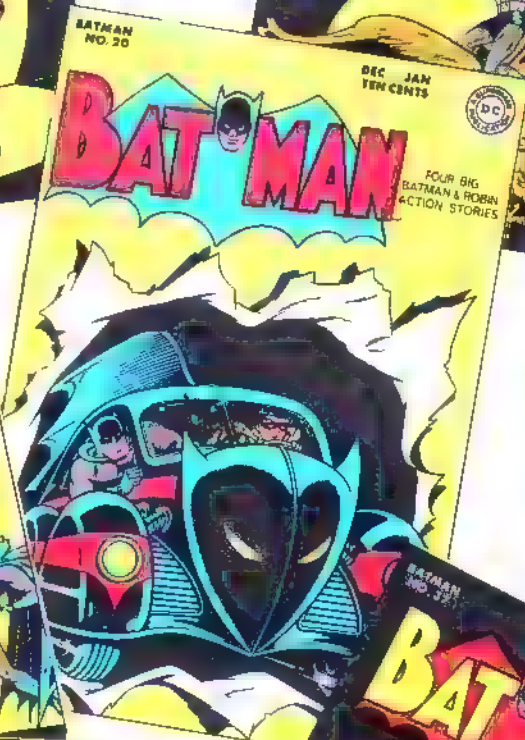
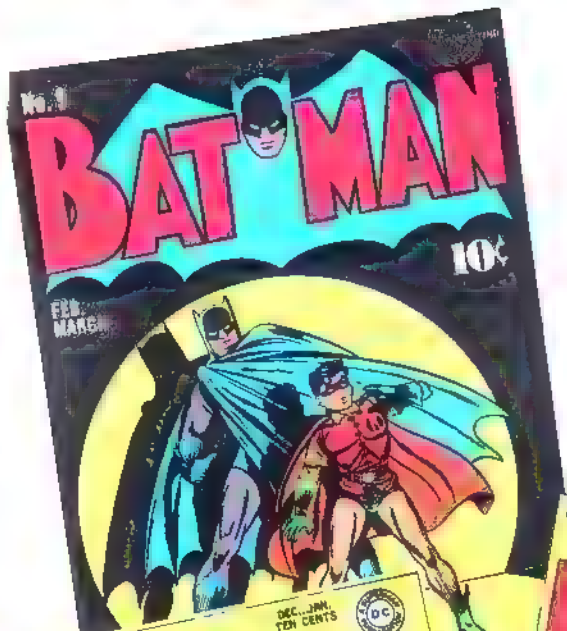
ALL BRAND NEW
ADVENTURES
OF THE BATMAN
AND ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER!



BATMAN

IN THE 30s & 40s



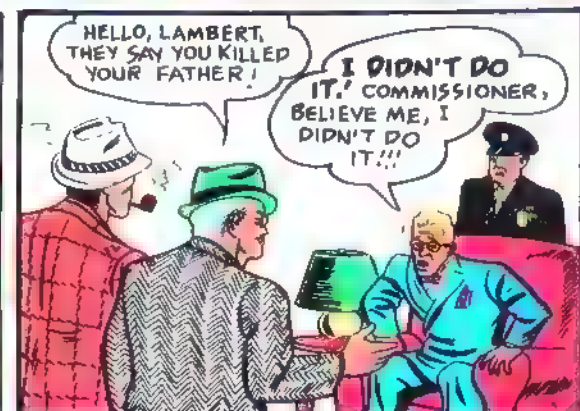
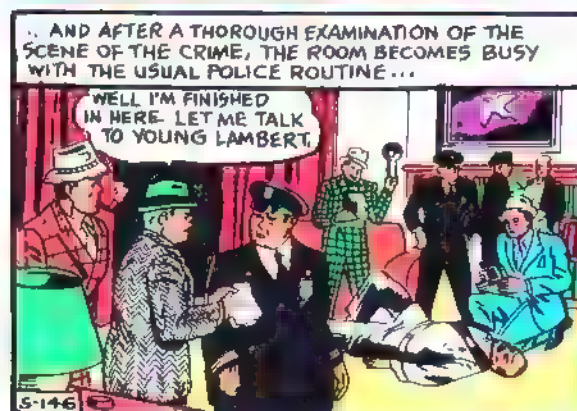
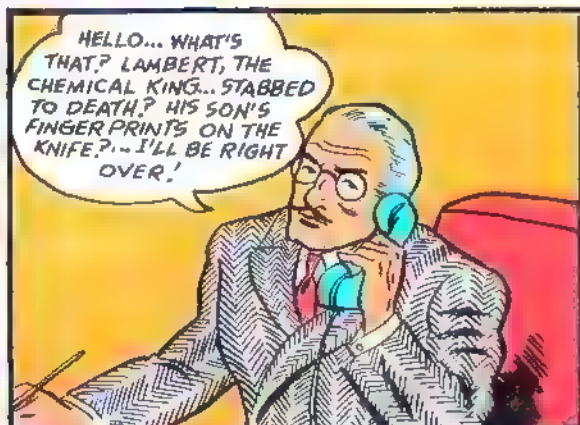
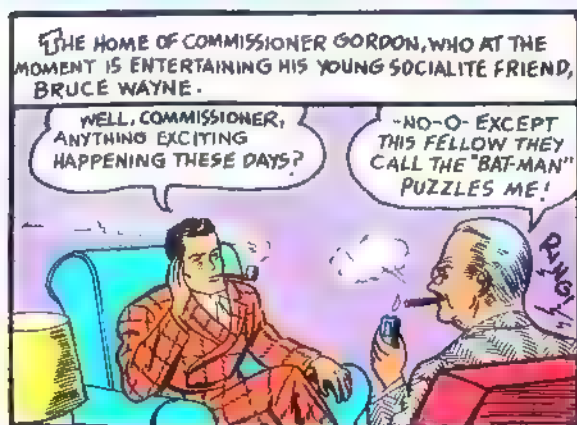


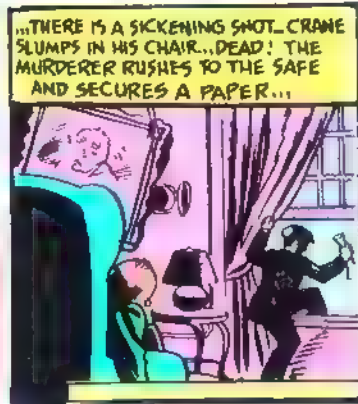
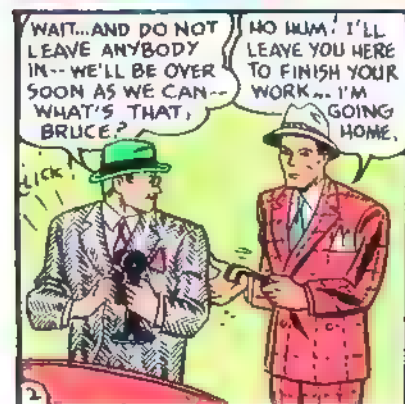
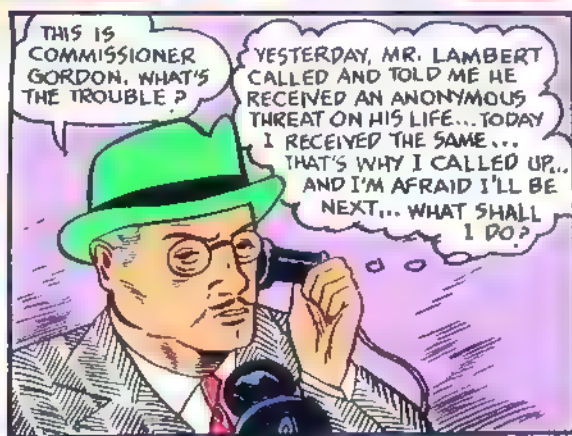
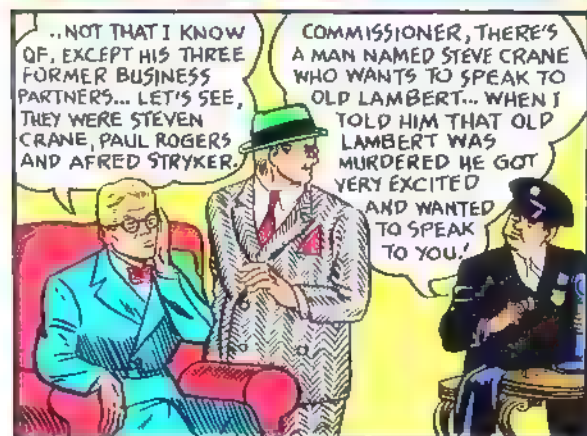
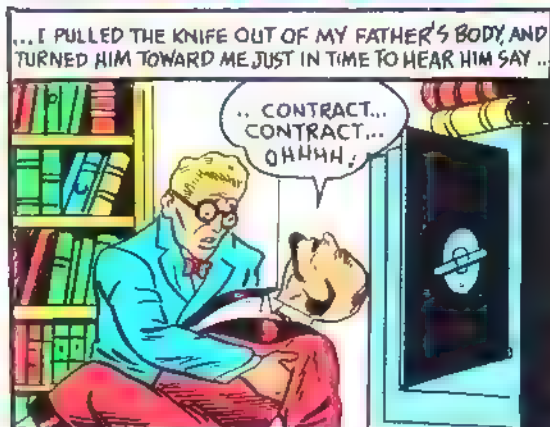
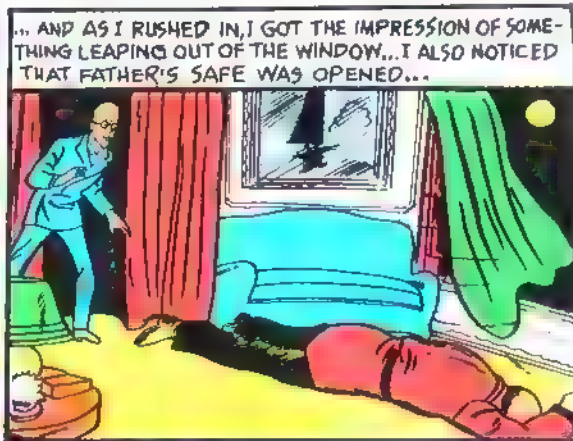
THE BAT-MAN

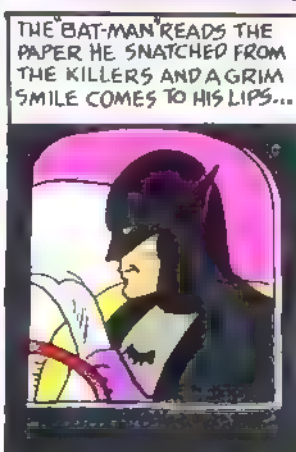
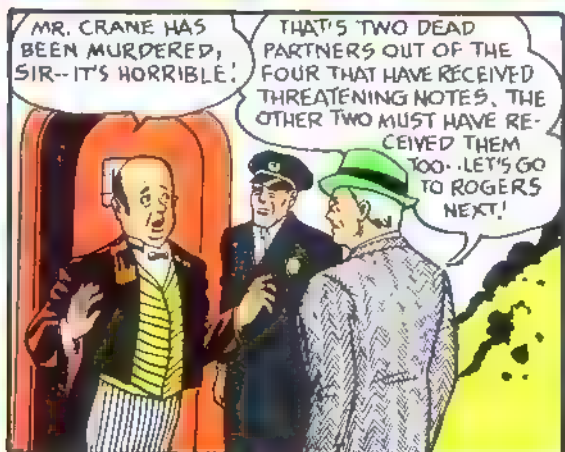
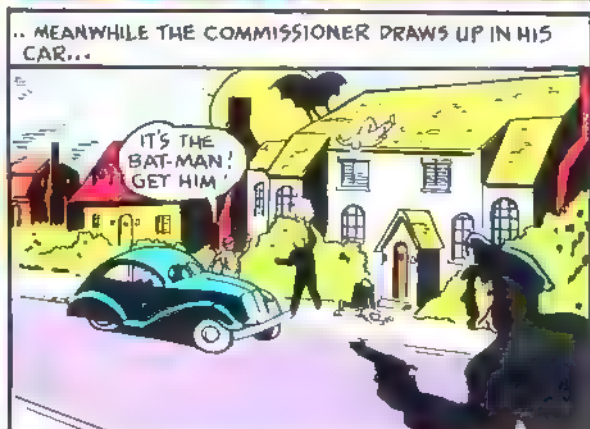
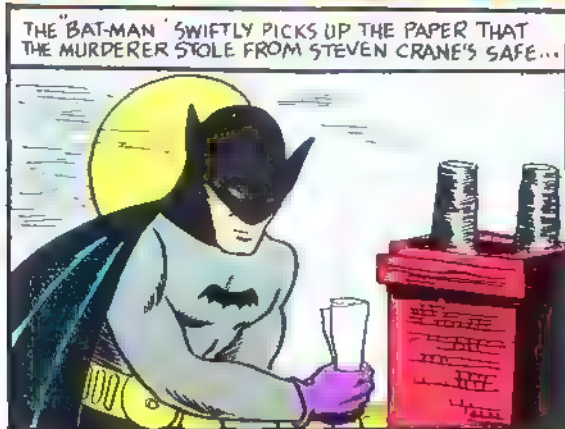
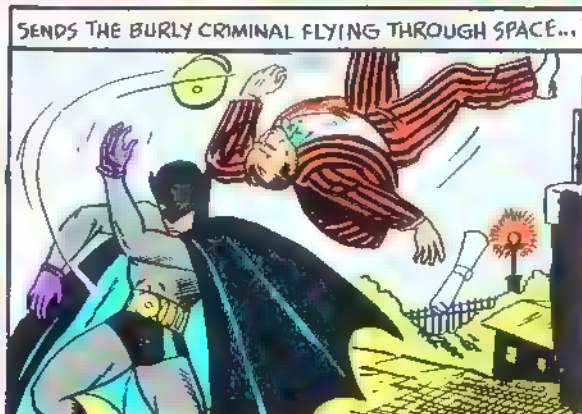
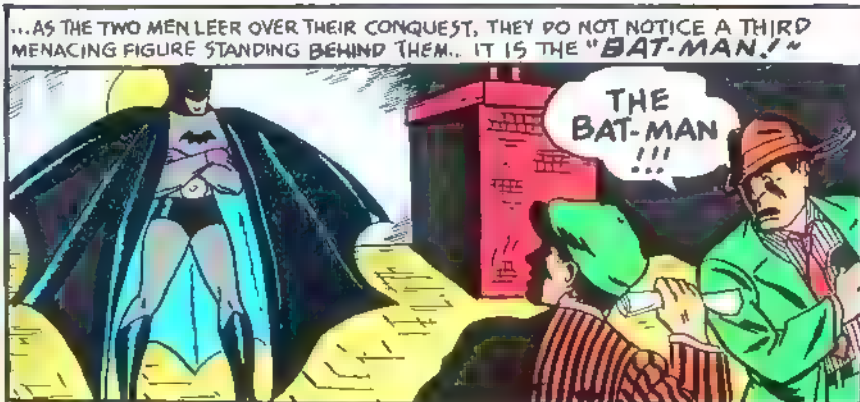
by **Robt Kane**

THE CASE OF THE CHEMICAL SYNDICATE.

"THE BAT-MAN," A MYSTERIOUS AND ADVENTUROUS FIGURE FIGHTING FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS AND APPREHENDING THE WRONG DOER, IN HIS LONE BATTLE AGAINST THE EVIL FORCES OF SOCIETY... HIS IDENTITY REMAINS UNKNOWN.



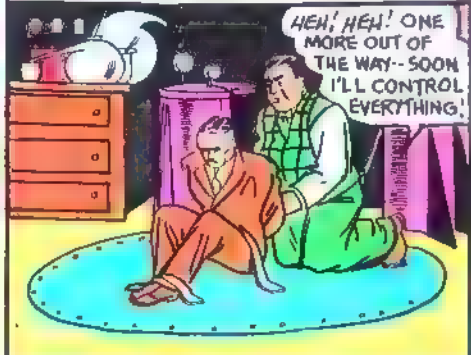




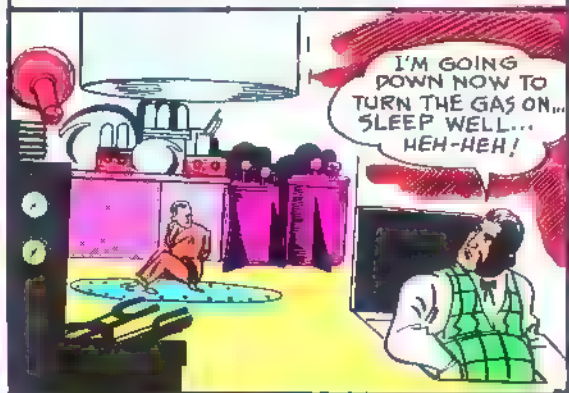
...MEANWHILE ROGERS WHO HAS LEARNED OF LAMBERT'S DEATH BY NEWS BROADCAST, HAS ALREADY GONE TO THE NEIGHBORING LABORATORY OF HIS ERSTWHILE PARTNER, ALFRED STRYKER...



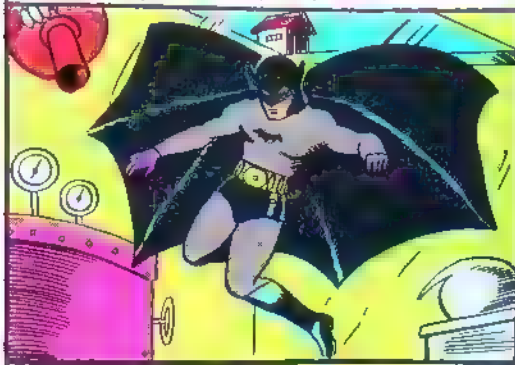
JENNINGS, STRYKER'S ASSISTANT, CARRIES ROGERS TO THE BASEMENT OF HIS LABORATORY...



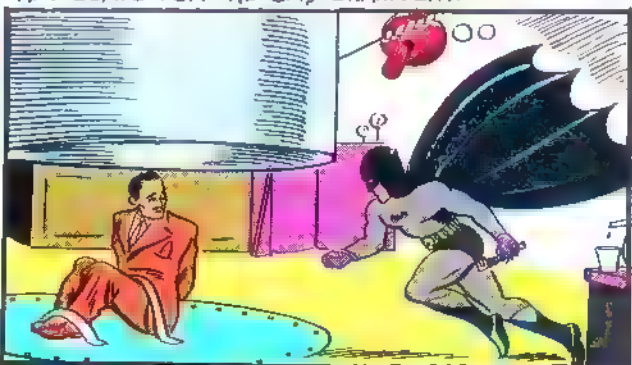
JENNINGS PULLS A BRAKE WHICH STARTS THE GLASS DOWN OVER ROGERS AND CERTAIN DOOM...



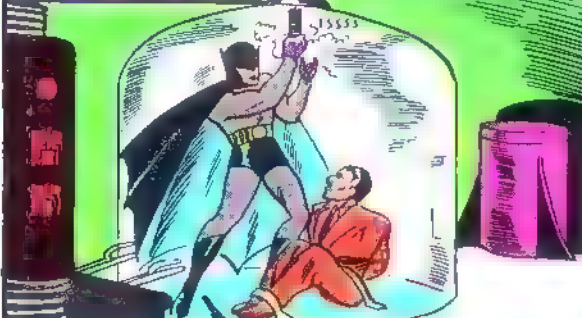
...AT THAT MOMENT THE "BAT-MAN" LEAPS THROUGH AN OPEN TRANSOM...



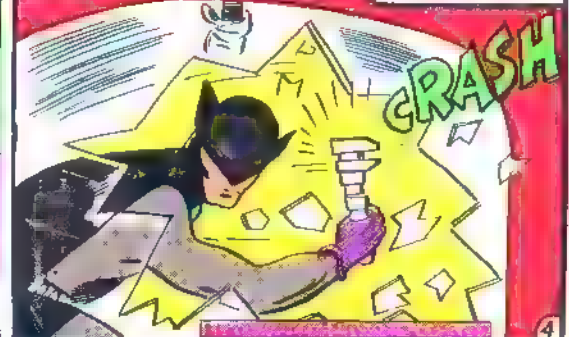
...THE "BAT-MAN" SEIZES A WRENCH FROM A TABLE AND LEAPS FOR THE GAS-CHAMBER...



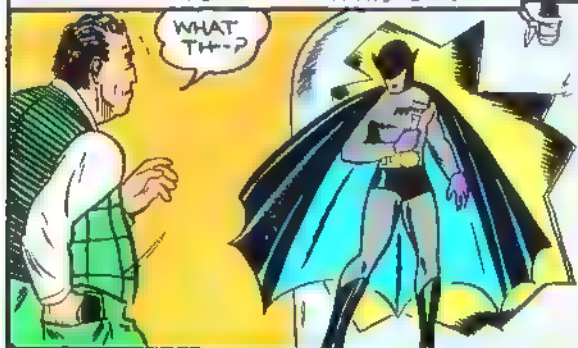
THE "BAT-MAN" QUICKLY PLUGS THE GAS-JET WITH A HANDKERCHIEF, AS THE GAS CHAMBER DESCENDS ENTIRELY OVER THEM...



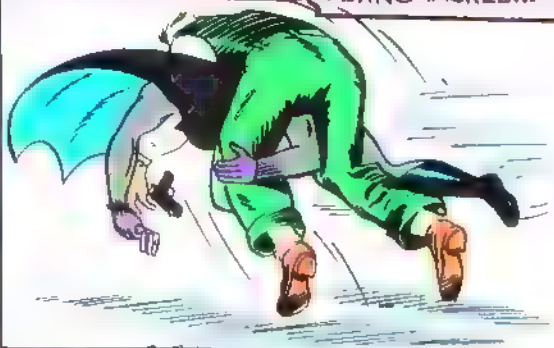
...HE THEN UNTIES ROGERS, AND WITH A POWERFUL SWING...



JENNINGS RETURNS AND IS STARTLED BY THE BAT-MAN ... HE REACHES FOR HIS GUN ...



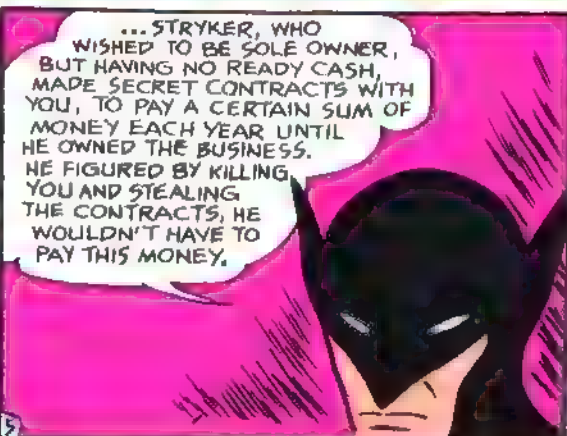
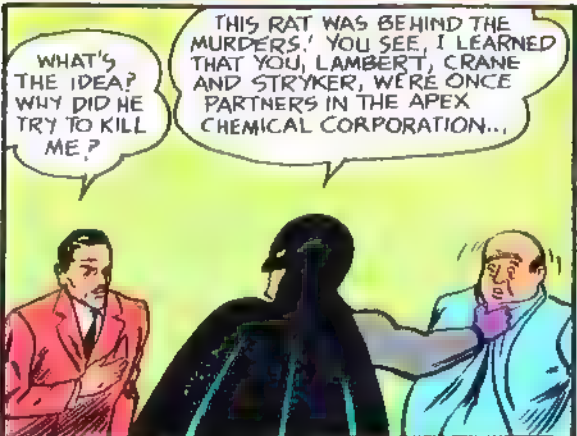
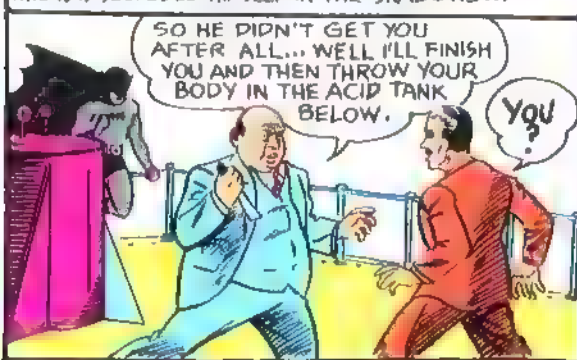
...THE "BAT-MAN" GREET'S JENNINGS WITH A FLYING TACKLE...

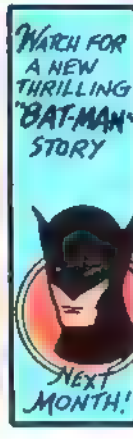
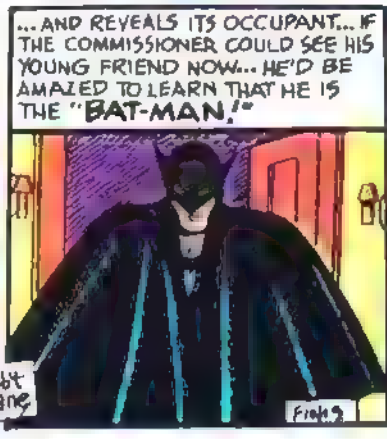
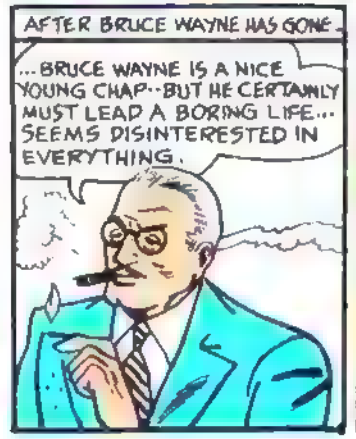
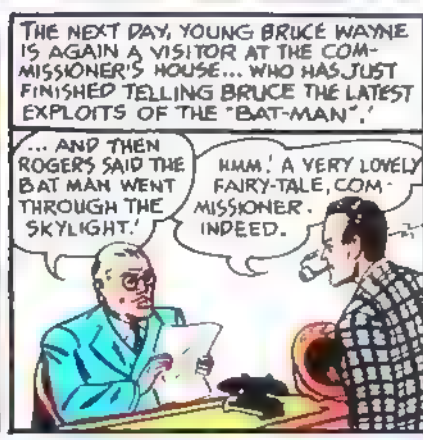
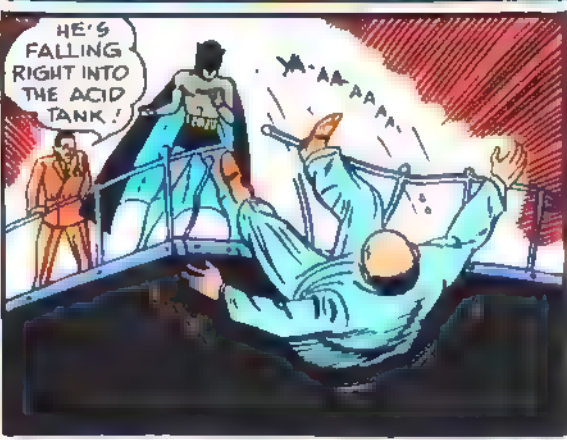
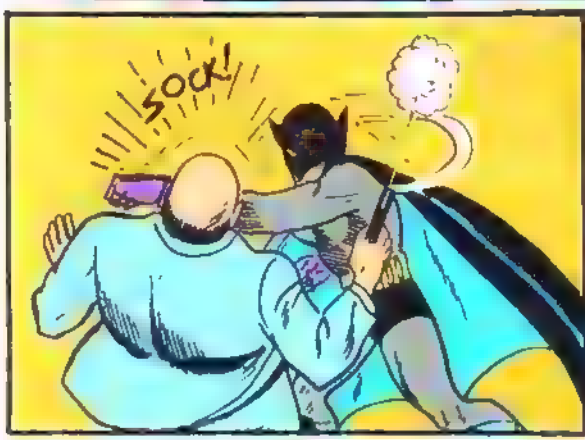
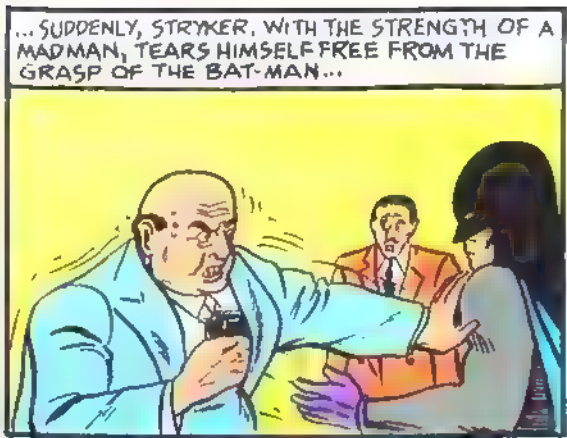
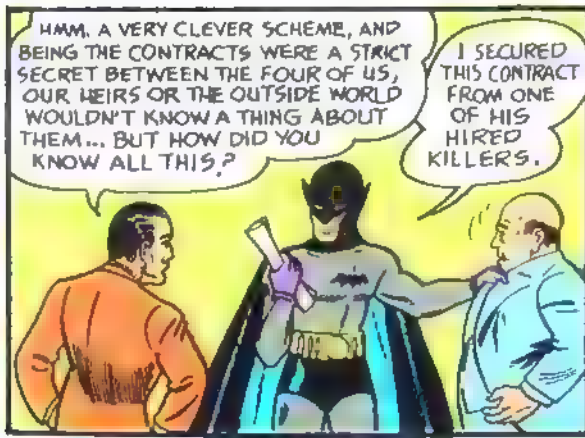


MEANWHILE, ALFRED STRYKER HAS HEARD THE CRASH OF THE GAS-CHAMBER...AS HE ENTERS THE LABORATORY...



HOWEVER, STRYKER HAS NOT NOTICED THE "BAT-MAN" WHO HAS SECLUDED HIMSELF IN THE SHADOWS...





The LEGEND of the

BATMAN



— WHO HE IS
AND HOW HE
CAME TO BE!

ONE NIGHT SOME FIFTEEN
YEARS AGO, THOMAS WAYNE,
HIS WIFE AND HIS SON WERE
WALKING HOME FROM A MOVIE...

W WHAT
IS THIS?

A STICKUP BUDDY!
I'LL TAKE THAT NECK
LACE YOU'RE
WEARIN' LADY!



LEAVE HER
ALONE, YOU!
OH.

YOU
ASKED
FOR IT!

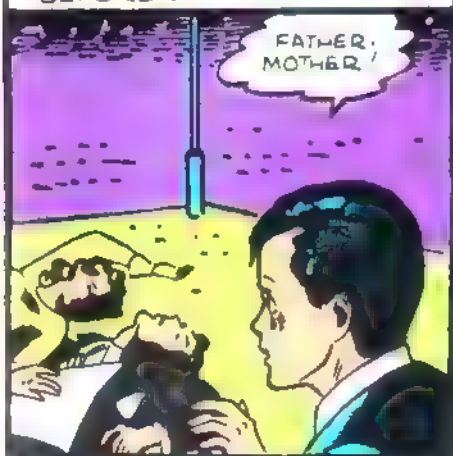


THOMAS! YOU'VE
KILLED HIM! HELP!
POLICE! HELP!

THIS'LL SHUT
YOU UP!

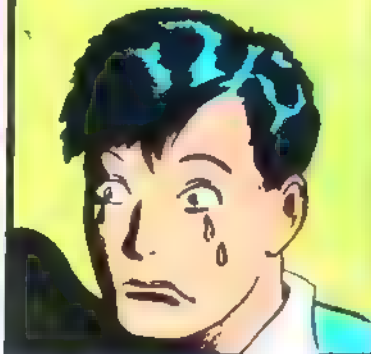


THE BOY'S EYES ARE WIDE WITH TERROR AND SHOCK AS THE HORRIBLE SCENE IS SPREAD BEFORE HIM



FATHER!
MOTHER!

DEAD!
THEY'RE
D. DEAD



DAYS LATER A CURIOUS AND STRANGE SCENE TAKES PLACE

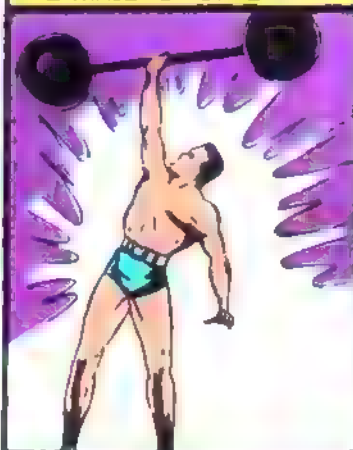
AND I SWEAR BY THE SPIRITS OF MY PARENTS TO AVENGE THEIR DEATHS BY SPENDING THE REST OF MY LIFE WARRING ON ALL CRIMINALS



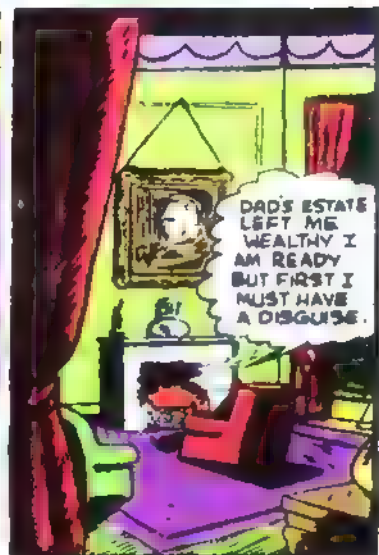
AS THE YEARS PASS BRUCE WAYNE PREPARES HIMSELF FOR HIS CAREER HE BECOMES A MASTER SCIENTIST.



TRAINS HIS BODY TO PHYSICAL PERFECTION UNTIL HE IS ABLE TO PERFORM AMAZING ATHLETIC FEATS.



DAD'S ESTATE LEFT ME WEALTHY I AM READY BUT FIRST I MUST HAVE A DISGUISE.



CRIMINALS ARE A SUPERSTITIOUS COWARDLY LOT SO MY DISGUISE MUST BE ABLE TO STRIKE TERROR INTO THEIR HEARTS. I MUST BE A CREATURE OF THE NIGHT. BLACK, TERRIBLE. A A

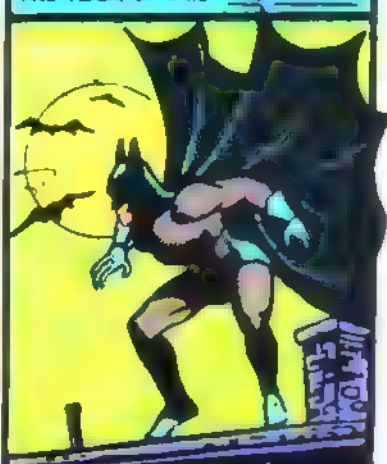


AS IF IN ANSWER A HUGE BAT FLIES IN THE OPEN WINDOW!

A BAT! THAT'S IT! IT'S AN OMEN I SHALL BECOME A BAT!



AND THIS IS BORN THIS WEIRD FIGURE OF THE DARK... THIS AVENGER OF EVIL 'THE BATMAN'



BATMAN

WITH
Robin
THE BOY WONDER

by



ONCE AGAIN A MASTER CRIMINAL STALKS THE CITY STREETS - A CRIMINAL WEAVING A WEB OF DEATH ABOUT HIM, LEAVING STEKKEN VICTIMS BEHIND WEARING A GHAUSTLY CLOWNS GRIN - THE SIGN OF DEATH FROM THE **JOKER**! ONLY TWO DARE TO OPPOSE HIM - **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** THE BOY WONDER! TWO TO BATTLE THE GRIM JESTER CALLED - THE **JOKER**! A BATTLE OF WITS WITH SWIFT DEATH, THE ONLY COMPROMISE !!!



IT IS NIGHT IN MOST HOMES PEOPLE LISTEN TO THEIR RADIOS

MY, ISN'T IT PEACEFUL SITTING AT HOME LIKE THIS?

NOTHING LIKE IT! HMMMM STATIC!

AWWK! CRACKLE! AWWK!



SUDDENLY THE MUSIC IS CUT OFF - A VOICE - A TONELESS VOICE DRONES ...

TONIGHT, AT PRECKELY TWELVE O'CLOCK MIDNIGHT I WILL KILL HENRY CLARIDGE AND STEAL THE CLARIDGE DIAMOND! DO NOT TRY TO STOP ME! THE **JOKER** HAS SPOKEN!



WHEN ONCE AGAIN MUSIC

HENRY DID YOU HEAR? HENRY CLARIDGE THE MILLIONAIRE, TO BE KILLED! THE FAMOUS DIAMOND STOLEN!

HAW! THAT'S JUST A GAG LIKE THAT FELLOW WHO SCARED EVERYBODY WITH THAT STORY ABOUT MARS THE LAST TIME! HA! HA! PAY NO ATTENTION TO IT, DEAR!

RADIO

STATIONS ARE SWAMPED WITH CALLS! OFFICIALS DECLARE THE STRANGE MESSAGE IS NOT A PART OF THE PROGRAM. THE 'GAG' HAS BECOME A REALITY!

HENRY CLARIDGE, FRIGHTENED WITH FEAR, CALLS THE POLICE

YOU'VE GOT TO PROTECT ME! I'M GOING TO BE KILLED! ROBBED!

DON'T WORRY, MR. CLARIDGE YOU AND THAT DIAMOND OF YOURS WILL BE SAFE ENOUGH! WE'LL ALL STAY IN THE SAME ROOM WHERE THE DIAMOND IS KEPT AND WATCH YOU

ELEVEN O'CLOCK! ONE HOUR TO GO!

BONG BONG

AN INFLEXIBLE CORDON IS FORMED ABOUT THE DOOMED MAN!

TIME DRAGON SECONDS MINUTES THEN THE FATAL HOUR TWELVE O'CLOCK!

I'M STILL ALIVE! I'M NOT DEAD! I'M SAFE!...

HE JOKER HAS FULFILLED HIS THREAT CLARIDGE IS DEAD!!

SLOWLY THE FACIAL MUSCLES PULL THE DEAD MAN'S MOUTH INTO A REPELLANT, GHOSTLY GRIN THE SIGN OF DEATH FROM THE JOKER

WHEN WITHOUT WARNING!

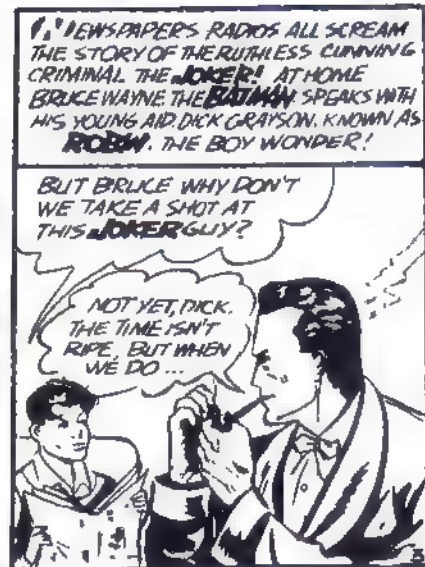
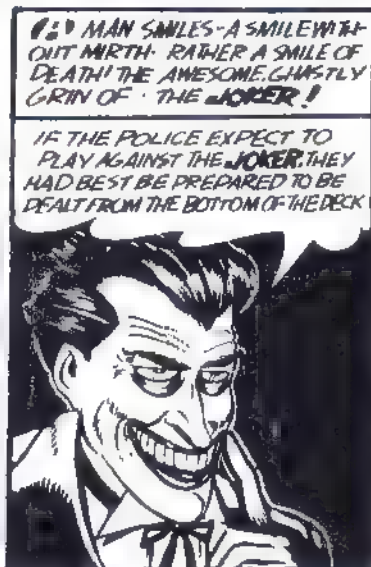
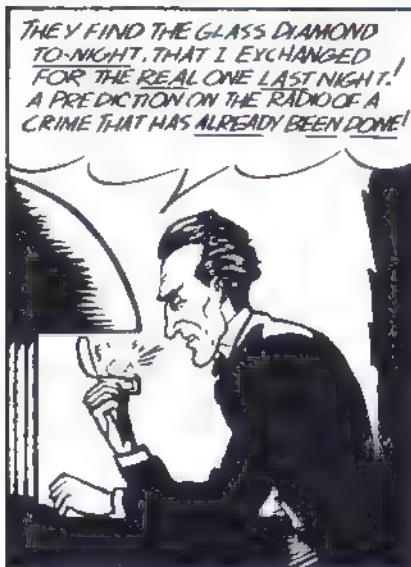
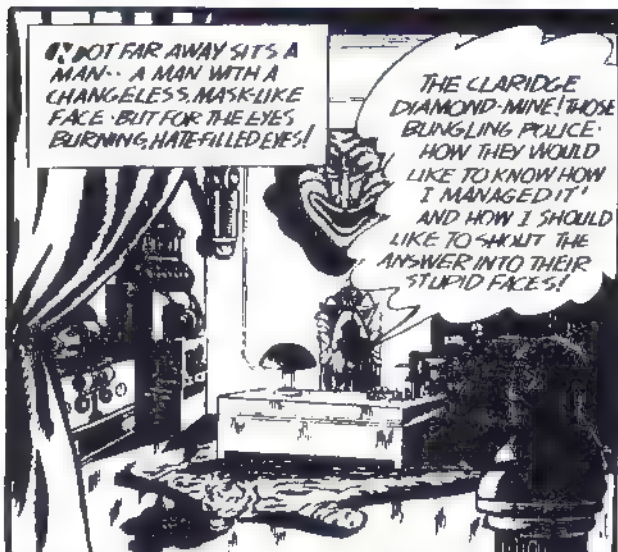
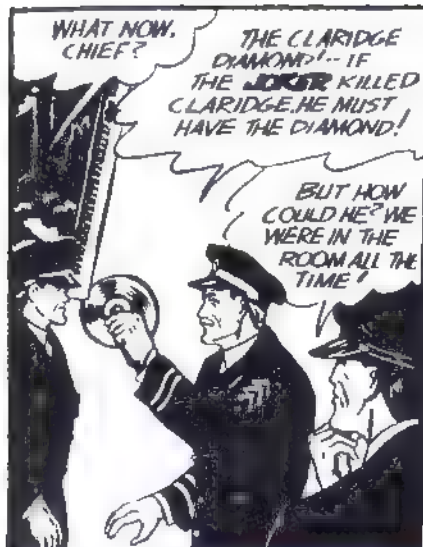
I'M SAA-AAGH! AAG-NN!

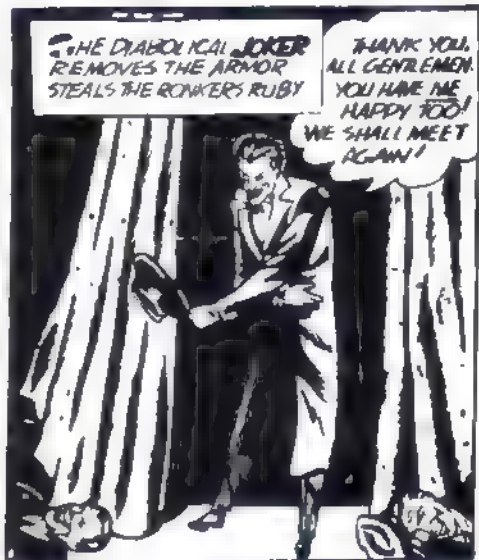
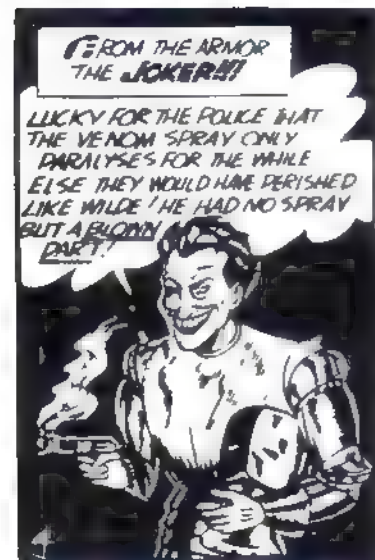
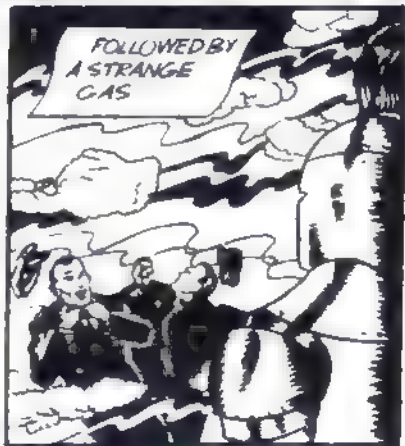
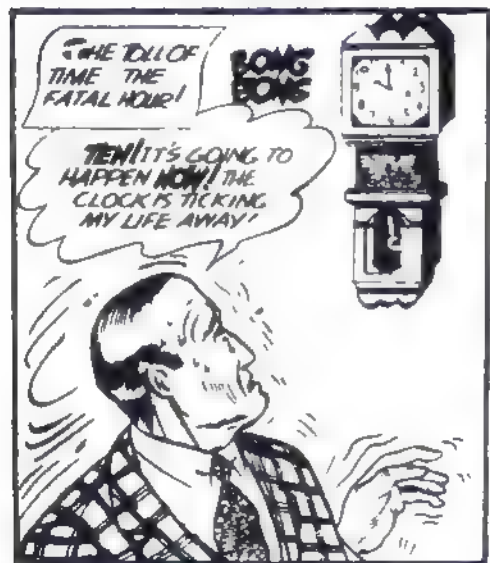
DEAD IT ISN'T POSSIBLE AND YET

CHIEF! LOOK HIS MOUTH!

IT'S IT'S HORRIBLE!

GROTESQUE! THE JOKER BRINGS DEATH TO HIS VICTIMS WITH A SMILE!





THE POLICE SEARCH EVERYWHERE FOR THE JOKER BUT TO NO AVAIL. BUT ANOTHER GROUP IS ALSO INTERESTED THE CRIMINAL! A HANGOUT NOTED FOR ITS CRIMINAL ELEMENT...

I TELL YA BOYS WE GOTTA GET THIS GUY. THE JOKER!

WE GET THE CLARIDGE DIAMOND LINED UP FOR AN EASY JOB AND HE PULLS THE JOB!

YOU'RE RIGHT, BRUTE. HE'S CUTTIN' IN ON OUR RACKET!

AND DON'T FORGET WE WERE GONNA TRY FOR THE RONKERS RUBY!

WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO. TAKE IT LYIN' DOWN?

I GOT AN IDEA! YOU GUYS GO OUT AND PASS THE WORD AROUND THAT BRUTE NELSON IS GONNA GET THE JOKER THAT HE THINKS THE JOKER IS A VELLER RAT!

THE SENSATIONAL NEWS THAT BRUTE NELSON IS GUNNING FOR THE JOKER. TRAVELS THE CRIMINAL "GRAPE-VINE". THE BATMAN IS READY TO GO INTO ACTION!

I'M GOING TO THE HOME OF BRUTE NELSON! I HEARD SOME NEWS TODAY INER THE "GRAPE-VINE" THAT MAKE'S ME THINK THE TIME IS RIFE! WHERE ARE YOU GOING ALONE?

IT IS NIGHT. BRUTE NELSON SITS IN HIS PRIVATE HOUSE IN THE SUBURBS.

THE JOKER, EH. WHEN I GET THROUGH WITH HIM HE'LL BE A JOKE ALL RIGHT!

SUDDENLY A DROWNING DEADLY VOICE. A FUNERAL FACE. WITH EYES RADIATING HATE

TALKING ABOUT ME?

THE JOKER!

SUDDENLY DOOR'S BURST OPEN. THE JOKER IS TRAPPED!!

VERY NEAT--THAT UGLY HEAD OF YOURS DOES HAVE A BRAIN!

SURE I KNEW IF YOU GOT SORE ENOUGH YOU'D COME FOR ME!

SUDDENLY THE SCRAPE OF A FOOT IS HEARD UP ON THE STAIR. THE MIGHTY BATMAN!

I'M AFRAID I WASN'T AS SILENT AS I HOPED TO BE!

THE BATMAN! HOW DID HE GET IN HERE?

THE JOKER IS MOMENTARILY FORGOTTEN AS THE BATMAN LEAPS DOWN THE STAIRS.

LOOK OUT!! SHOOT HIM!

**HUMAN
AVALANCHE
STRIKES THE
GUNMEN!**

RATHER UNSTEADY
ON YOUR FEET
AREN'T YOU?

**MASSIVE FIST CRASHES
AGAINST A GUNMAN'S JAW!**



**THE JOKER TAKES ADVANTAGE OF
THE FIGHT TO SETTLE AN OLD SCORE!**

HAVE A SEAT BOYS!
THERE'S ENOUGH ROOM
ON THIS CHAIR FOR
TWO!

I WON'T EVEN WASTE
THE USUAL JOKER VENOM
ON YOU, BRUTE. BUT GIVE YOU
SOMETHING YOU CAN
UNDERSTAND!
LEAD!

**LIKE A JUGGERNAUT THE BATMAN LEAPS
AFTER THE RUTHLESS JOKER!!**

THAT GUY ISN'T GETTING
AWAY IF I CAN HELP
IT!

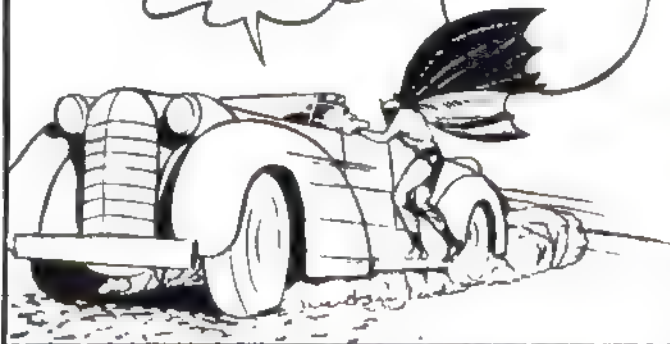
**EVEN AS THE CAR STARTS
THE BATMAN IS UPON IT
LIKE AN AVENGING BLACK
CLOUD!**

HASN'T THIS BOY
HEARD IT'S LEAP
YEAR?

ONLY THE MIGHTY BATMAN
COULD HAVE MADE THE LEAP
SUCCESSFULLY!

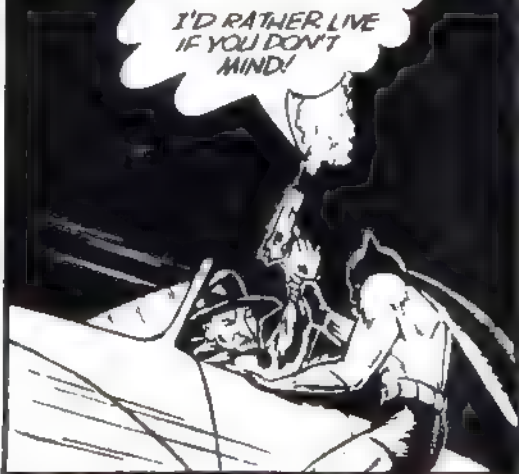
MADE IT!
AND NOW...

YOU! PREPARE
TO DIE!

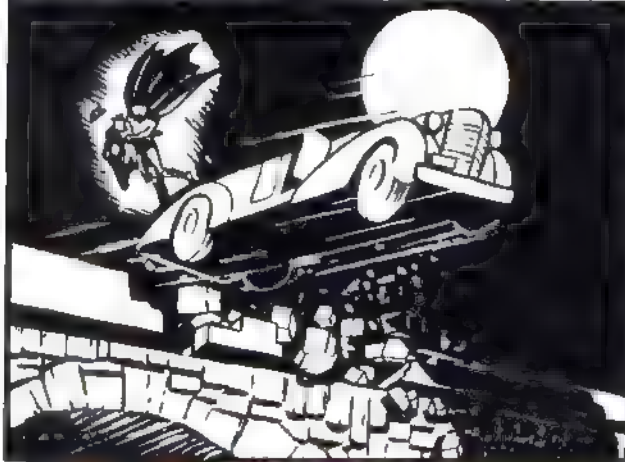


BUT WITH THE SPEED OF LIGHT, THE
BATMAN GRABS THE JOKER'S HAND.

I'D RATHER LIVE
IF YOU DON'T
MIND!



AS THE CAR CAREENS MADLY OFF THE BRIDGE
THE DOOR SWINGS OPEN! THE BATMAN'S TUMBLING
FORM TAKES THE JOKER WITH IT!!



THE STRUGGLING MEN FALL
TO THE BRIDGE AS THEY RISE THE
JOKER EXPLODES A HAMMER
OFF THE BATMAN'S JAW!!!

I'M GOING
TO KILL
YOU!



WICKED KICK RAKES THE
BATMAN'S HEAD!

BLAST YOU
FALL!!



THE MURDEROUS JOKER
PUSHES THE HELPLESS
BATMAN OFF THE BRIDGE!!

FIGHT THE JOKER,
WILL YOU! LET THAT BE A
LESSON TO YOU!! ... A
PERMANENT LESSON!
HA-HA HA-HA



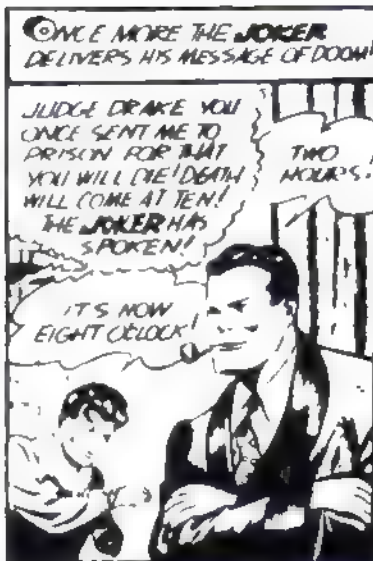
THE SHOCK OF COLD WATER
QUICKLY REVIVES THE DARK KNIGHT!

WOW! MY HEAD FEELS
AS IF IT WERE GOING
TO BURST ANY
MOMENT!





IT SEEMS I'VE AT LAST MET A Foe THAT CAN GIVE ME A GOOD FIGHT! HOWEVER I'M NOT LUCKY YET! NOT QUITE!



ONCE MORE THE JOKER DELIVERS HIS MESSAGE OF DOOM!

JUDGE DRAKE YOU ONCE SENT ME TO PRISON FOR THAT YOU WILL DIE! DEATH WILL COME AT TEN! THE JOKER HAS SPOKEN!

TWO HOURS.

IT'S NOW EIGHT O'CLOCK!



JUDGE DRAKE'S HOME!

NINE O'CLOCK! ONE MORE HOUR TO LIVE!

LISTEN JUDGE I'VE GOT MEN POSTED OUTSIDE EVERY DOOR! NO ONE CAN GET IN! RELAX LETS PLAY SOME CARDS!



THE MINUTES FLY

IT'S YOUR BE "JUDGE"

YOU WIN-I NEED THE ACE OF SPADES TO MAKE THE GAME!



THE JOKER!

YOU CAN WIN ANYWAY YOU SEE I HAD THE WINNING CARD!



THE JUDGE IS AGHAST AS HE LOOKS AT THE SUPPOSED POLICE CHIEF!

YOU THE POLICE CHIEF THE JOKER!

YES! BUT NOT QUITE THE POLICE CHIEF THE REAL CHIEF IS TRAPPED UP IN THE CELLAR! DRAX'S IS ALSO ONE OF MY MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS!



THE CLOCK TOLDS AN DEATHKNELL FOR ANOTHER VICTIM OF THE JOKER!

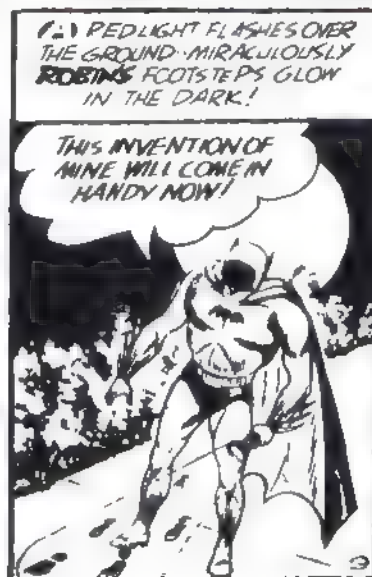
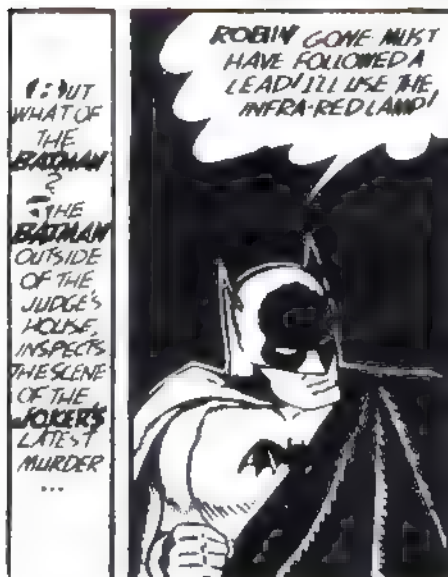
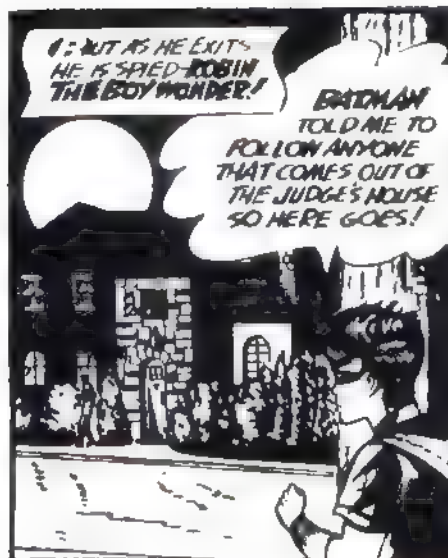
TEN O'CLOCK! THE VENOM WORKS WELL! ADIEU JUDGE OUR LITTLE GAME IS FINISHED!



THE POLICE CHIEF GIVES ORDERS!

JUDGE DRAKE IS DEAD! THE JOKER HAS WON AGAIN! WITH THE BODY I'M GOING TO HEADQUARTERS!

DEAD! OKAY CHIEF!



IF POLICE DISGUISE REMOVED
ONCE AGAIN THE JOKER
PREPARES TO HAVE HIS
LITTLE JOKE - WHEN -

AND NOW THE
VENOM INTO
YOUR WHA?

NOT SO FAST,
FRIEND...

DROP
IT!

CLUBBING
BLOW!

YOU MAY BE THE
JOKER BUT I'M
THE KING OF
CLUBS!

SENDS THE JOKER CRASHING
INTO THE CHEMICAL TABLE
A FLASH OF ELECTRIC FLAME
IGNITES THE CHEMICALS A
BLAST THEN FIRE!

THE HARMLESS BUT
PARALYSING GAS
SKEWS FORTH

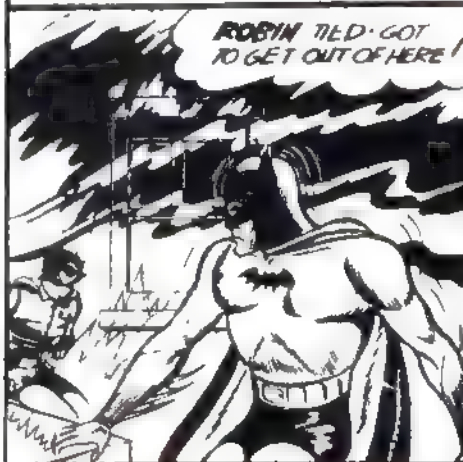
THE BATMAN'S JAW
TIGHTENS INTO THE GHOSTLY
JOKER GRIN!

THE JOKER'S HAND
STEALTHY REACHES FOR
THE SPRAY GUN THAT HAD
FALLEN TO THE FLOOR!

INJECTIONS OF AN
ANTIDOTE MAKE ME
IMMUNE BATMAN,
BUT NOT YOU!

I LEAVE YOU HERE
PARALYSED TO PERISH
IN THE FLAMES! ADIEU,
BATMAN!

!! BUT THE JOKER HAS NOT RECKONED WITH THE AMAZING REGENERATIVE POWERS OF THE NIGHTY BATMAN!



!! HE ESCAPE FROM A FIERY DEATH!



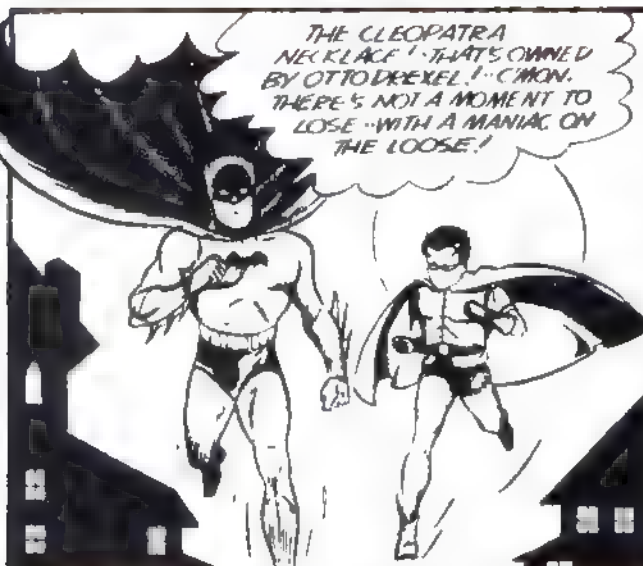
FEW MOMENTS LATER

THE JOKER IS GONE! I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO KNOW WHERE!

HE BOASTED INSIDE THAT HE WAS GOING TO GET THE CLEOPATRA NECKLACE NEXT!

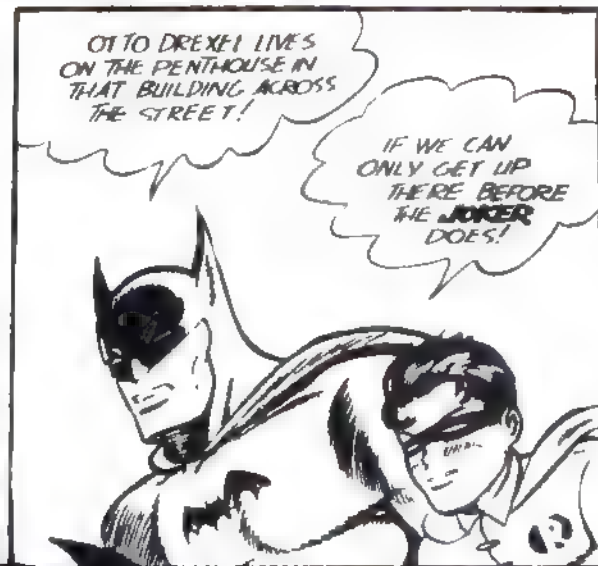


THE CLEOPATRA NECKLACE! THAT'S OWNED BY OTTO DREXEL!... C'MON, THERE'S NOT A MOMENT TO LOSE... WITH A MANIAC ON THE LOOSE!



OTTO DREXEL LIVES ON THE PENTHOUSE IN THAT BUILDING ACROSS THE STREET!

IF WE CAN ONLY GET UP THERE BEFORE THE JOKER DOES!



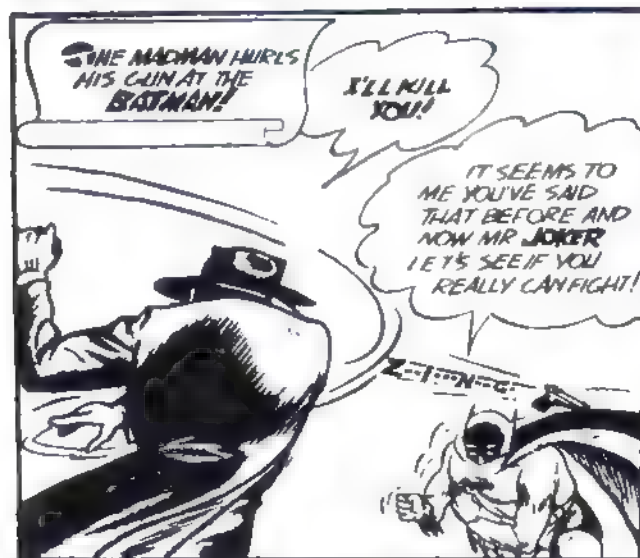
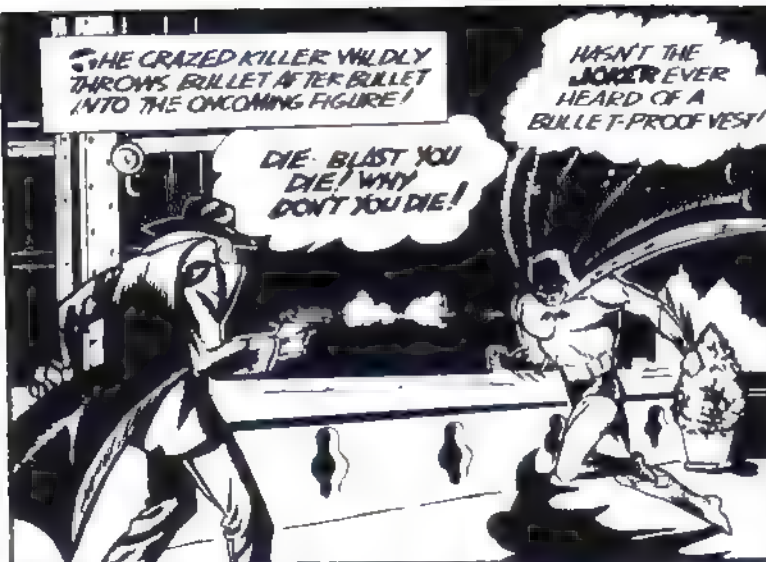
ON THE PENTHOUSE THE JOKER PREPARES TO ENTER



!! BUT LEAPING FROM THE SCAFFOLD... THE COWLED BATMAN...



STILL AT IT, EH?





THE SMASHING KICK SENDS THE JOKER FLYING OFF THE SCAFFOLDING!

AS THE FRANTIC MAN FALLS FAST THE PENHOUSE BALLUSTRADE A HAND REACHES OUT-

AGH! I'M FALLING! OH NO YOU'RE NOT!



THE STRONG ARM OF THE BATMAN HAULS HIM BACK TO SAFETY!

YOU'RE TOO VALUABLE A PRIZE TO LOSE!



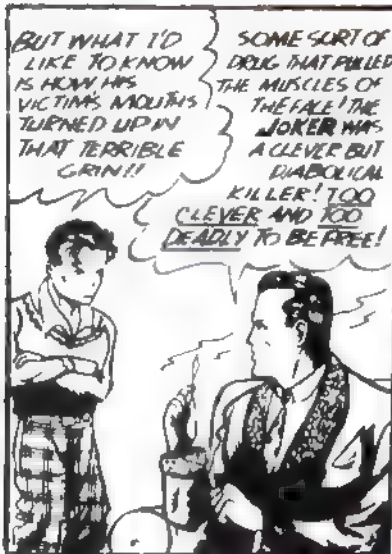
YOU PLAYED YOUR LAST HAND, JOKER!

FINAL BLOW WITH ALL THE STRENGTH OF THE BATMAN BEHIND IT!!



NEXT DAY.

DAILY STAR 25
FINAL
BATMAN CAPTURES JOKER
LEAVES JOKER IN FRONT OF POLICE STATION DRIVEN AWAY



BUT WHAT I'D LIKE TO KNOW IS HOW HIS VICTIMS' MOUTHS TURNED UP IN THAT TERRIBLE GRIN!!

SOME SORT OF DRUG THAT PULLED THE MUSCLES OF THE FACE! THE JOKER WAS A CLEVER BUT DIABOLICAL KILLER! TOO CLEVER AND TOO DEADLY TO BE FREE!

BUT EVEN AS BRUCE SPEAKS, AT THE STATE PRISON, THE JOKER IS PLANNING, PLOTTING FOR HIS ESCAPE!

THEY CAN'T KEEP ME HERE!! I KNOW OF A WAY OUT - THE JOKER WILL YET HAVE THE LAST LAUGH!



THE *Amazing* **BATMAN**
AMERICA'S MOST FAMOUS ADVENTURE-STRIP CHARACTER WITH THAT SENSATIONAL NEW DISCOVERY, THAT LAUGHING YOUNG DARE DEVIL **Robin** THE BOY WONDER
WILL THRILL YOU EVERY MONTH WITH THEIR ASTOUNDING EXPLOITS IN DETECTIVE COMICS

BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

- THE BOY WONDER -

BOB
KANE

TWO'S A PERFECT FIGHTING TEAM, AND THREE'S A CROWD IN THE CASE OF THE BATMAN AND ROBIN -- AND WHAT A CROWD, WHEN THE THIRD IS THE SINGULAR GENTLEMAN YOU ARE ABOUT TO MEET! LANDING IN THE MIDST OF VIOLENCE AFTER A VIOLENT CROSSING OF MANY OCEANS, NONCHALANTLY ATTRACTING VIOLENCE WHEREVER HE MOVES, THIS AMAZING FELLOW GIVES AMERICA'S ACE CRIME-SMASHERS THE MOST VIOLENT SURPRISE OF THEIR LIVES -- AND MAKES THEM LIKE HIM FOR IT! YOU HAVE NEVER BEFORE ENCOUNTERED ANYONE QUITE LIKE HIM, BUT YOU'LL BE EAGER TO SEE HIM AGAIN!

AND NOW SIT TIGHT, FOR --

"HERE COMES ALFRED!"



NIGHT--AND A SMALL PASSENGER VESSEL ENDS A PERILOUS WARTIME CROSSING OF THE ATLANTIC AT A GOTHAM CITY PIER...



TWO SHIPBOARD ACQUAINTANCES SAY GOODBYE, NEVER DREAMING THAT THE HAND OF FATE WILL CAST THEM TOGETHER AGAIN SOONER THAN THEY THINK...

THE PARTING OF THE WAYS, MR. LEDUC! IT'S BEEN A PLEASURE TALKING TO YOU--AND I WISH YOU THE BEST, AND ALL THAT BALLY TOSH!

AW, MY ENGLISH FRIEND, I HOPE YOU FIND HAPPINESS AND SUCCESS IN THIS STRANGE LAND OF AMERICA!



YOU'RE GASTON LEDUC, EH? AND THIS IS YOUR PERMIT TO ENTER THE COUNTRY WITHOUT UNDERGOING INSPECTION... ALL RIGHT--YOU MAY PASS!

CUSTOMS INSPECTION

"HOW TO BE A DETECTIVE IN TEN EASY LESSONS" SO YOU'RE A SLEUTH?

AND RAWTHER GOOD AT IT, IF I DO SAY SO! HMM... I'VE KNOWN ALL ALONG THERE WAS SOMETHIN' MYSTERIOUS ABOUT THAT GENTLEMAN!



TRY AS I WOULD I COULDN'T MAKE HIM TALK ABOUT HIMSELF! I'VE HALF A MIND TO FOLLOW HIM NOW!

WELL, IT'S A FREE COUNTRY, AND YOU'RE IN IT! ...NEXT!



AT THE PIER EXIT, THREE SWARTHY INDIVIDUALS WATCH THE NEW ARRIVALS WITH BEADY, GLITTERING EYES...

ON GUARD! IF YOU MISS OUR MAN, MY DAGGER WILL NOT MISS YOUR SCRAWNY BODIES!



I AM NOT AFRAID, MANUEL! MY EYES ARE AS KEEN AS YOUR KNIVES!

AND IN TURN, THE WATCHERS ARE WATCHED BY TWO DARK FIGURES THAT BLEND OMINOUSLY WITH THE SHADOWS!

SO THAT'S MANUEL STILETTI, THE INTERNATIONAL CROOK! WHAT DO YOU THINK HE'S UP TO, BATMAN?



THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO FIND OUT! ALL I KNOW IS, WHENEVER MANUEL AND HIS CUTTHROATS ARE ON THE PROWL, TROUBLE ISN'T FAR AWAY!

PRESENTLY... I'M TWO YEARS LATE ALREADY, SO IT WON'T MATTER IF I TAKE AN HOUR OR TWO MORE TO FOLLOW LEDUC AND SATISFY MY CURIOSITY!



IT IS HE! REGARD THE VALISE!

HE SHALL NOT ESCAPE US!

GIVE ME THE VALISE QUIETLY. AM GO, AND PERHAPS I SHALL LET YOU LIVE!

OTHERWISE, YOU ARE DEAD LIKE A DOG!

EH--WHAT?... OH--A BALLY STICKUP, SUCH AS I'VE SEEN IN THE CINEMA!...



I'M AFRAID YOU BLIGHTERS
WILL HAVE TO WAIT TILL
I'VE FINISHED MY BOOK!

TWIN TORNADOES OF JUSTICE
THE BATMAN AND ROBIN,
DASH TO THE RESCUE OF THE
SCARED BUT NONE-TOO-MEEK
VICTIM!

-- BUT IT ISN'T EVERY DAY I GET
A CHANCE TO PUT MY MARK ON
A FAT RAT LIKE MANUEL STILETTI!



GOOD FOR
HIM, WHO-
EVER HE IS!
WE COULD
ALMOST SIT
THIS ONE
OUT--

DIABLO!
FOR THAT YOU SHALL
NOT DIE LIKE A DOG
BUT LIKE A PEEB!



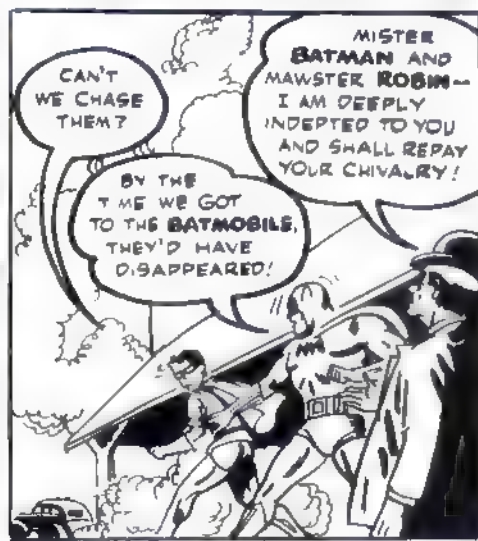
MY
WORD!



NICE
FOOTWORK,
CHUM--
BUT HOW DO
YOU LIKE
MINE?

DRIVE LIKE
MAD, PABLO!
THEY ARE THE
BATMAN AND
ROBIN!

WHAT
NO!



CAN'T
WE CHASE
THEM?

MISTER
BATMAN AND
MAWSTER ROBIN--
I AM DEEPLY
INDEPTED TO YOU
AND SHALL REPAY
YOUR CHIVALRY!

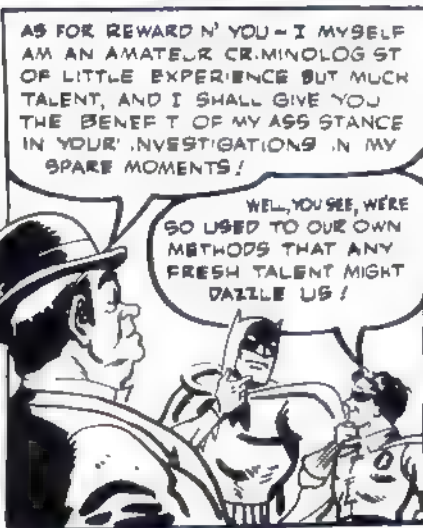
BY THE
T ME WE GOT
TO THE BATMOBILE,
THEY'D HAVE
DISAPPEARED!



FORGET IT!--
BY THE WAY--
WHAT WERE
THEY
AFTER?

MY VALISE, SIR--
BUT THERE'S NOTHING
OF VALUE INSIDE IT!
WHAT A JOKE ON THEM
IF THEY'D GOT IT! HA, HA!

AND WHAT A
JOKE ON YOU IF
THEY'D KILLED
YOU!



AS FOR REWARD N' YOU-- I MYSELF
AM AN AMATEUR CRIMINOLOGIST
OF LITTLE EXPERIENCE BUT MUCH
TALENT, AND I SHALL GIVE YOU
THE BENEFIT OF MY ASS STANCE
IN YOUR INVESTIGATIONS IN MY
SPARE MOMENTS!

WELL, YOU SEE, WE'RE
SO USED TO OUR OWN
METHODS THAT ANY
FRESH TALENT MIGHT
DAZZLE US!



BUT YOU
MIGHT
CALL ON
US SOME-
TIME AND
TALK
T
OVER!

BY JOVE, I
SHALL! YOU
MAY EXPECT
ME AS SOON
AS I HAVE
ATTENDED TO
A LITTLE MATTER
OF BUSINESS!

LATER, AS THE ADVENTURERS PREPARE TO GO TO BED...

THAT WAS A GOOD ONE, BRUCE-- TELLING HIM TO CALL ON US, WHEN NOBODY KNOWS WHO THE BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE, OR WHERE THEY LIVE!

OH WELL--MAYBE HE FANCIES HE'S SMART ENOUGH TO FIND US!

IMAGINE A DIMWIT LIKE HIM FINDING US WHEN SOME OF THE SMARTEST MEN IN THE WORLD HAVE TRIED AND FAILED!... OH, OH-- SOMEONE'S AT THE DOOR!

I'LL ANSWER IT!

WHO CAN IT BE AT THIS HOUR?

PROBABLY SOME OF YOUR NIGHT-OWL SOCIETY FRIENDS!

THE NEXT INSTANT

GOOD EVENIN', GENTLEMEN! I TRUST I HAVEN'T DISTURBED YOUR REST!

HUH?

I'LL JUST SET MY LUGGAGE DOWN. IF YOU'LL PERMIT ME-- AND THEN WE'LL DISCUSS MY DUTIES!

WHAT A TIME I HAD GETTIN' HERE, MR. WAYNE! IT WAS NECESSARY TO WAIT A YEAR FOR A SHIP IN ENGLAND--AND THE ONE I FINALLY GOT, STARTED BY WAY OF THE INDIAN OCEAN!

BUT-- BUT-- BUT--

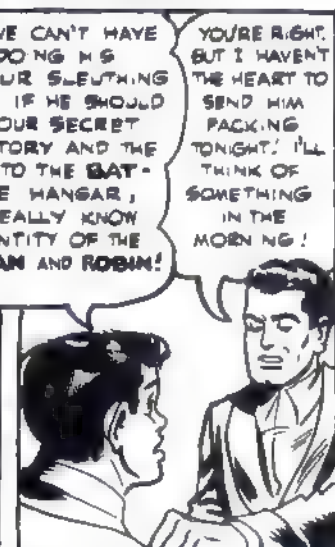
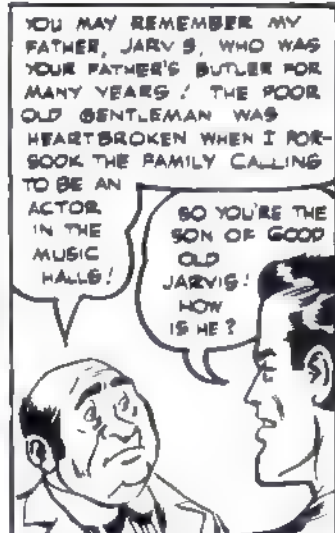
TWO SHIPS WERE TORPEDGED UNDER ME AND I SPENT A FORTNIGHT ADrift ON A LIFE RAFT! BUT MY MOST MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE HAPPENED WITHIN THE HOUR, WHEN THUGS ATTACKED ME AND THE BATMAN AND ROBIN PROVE THEM OFF!

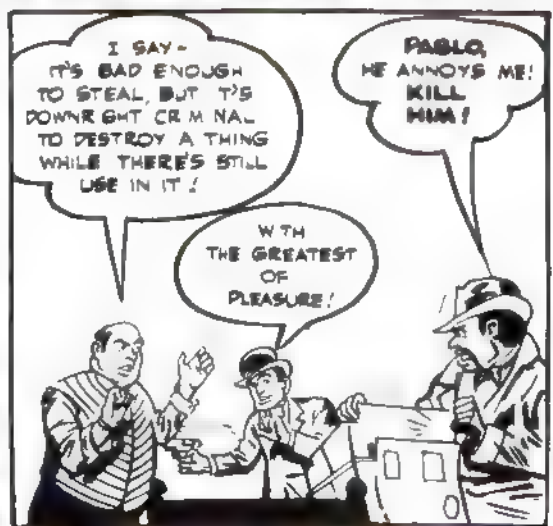
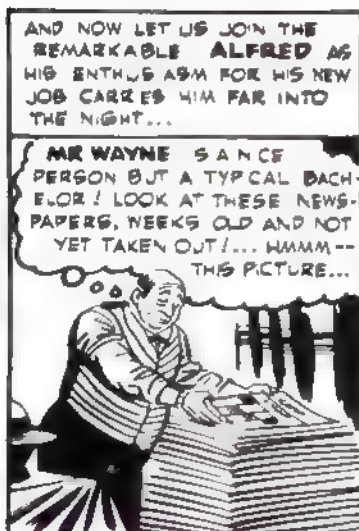
WHY, THEN-- YOU DIDN'T KNOW--

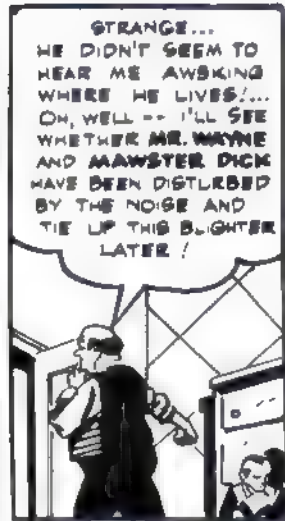
QUIET, DICK!

I'VE ALWAYS ADMIR'D THE BATMAN AS A BROTHER CRIMINOLOGIST. Y'KNOW-- BUT WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT, WHEN HE ASKED ME TO CALL, I QUITE FORGOT TO ASK HIS ADDRESS!

WELL!









SO---THE PLEASURE OF KILLING YOU HAS BEEN DELAYED, BUT NOT LOST!



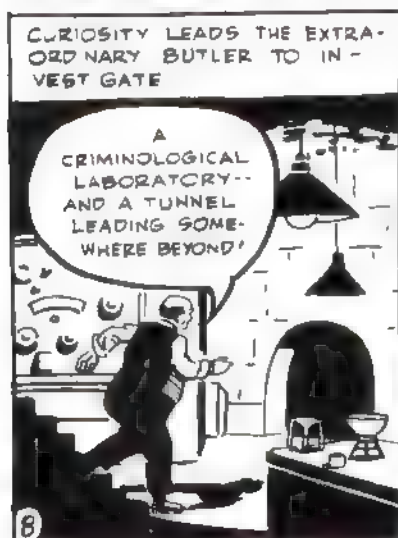
I HAVE A SHARP ANSWER FOR THAT CLUMSY BLOW!



AA-A-A!



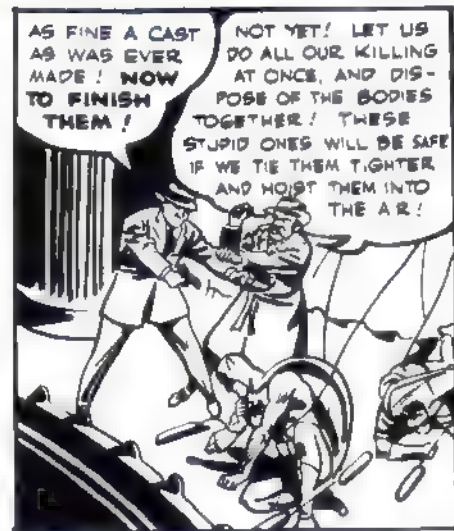
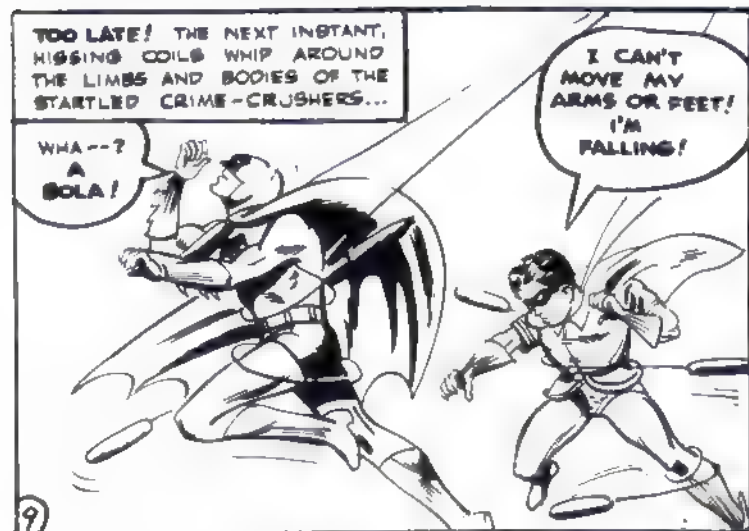
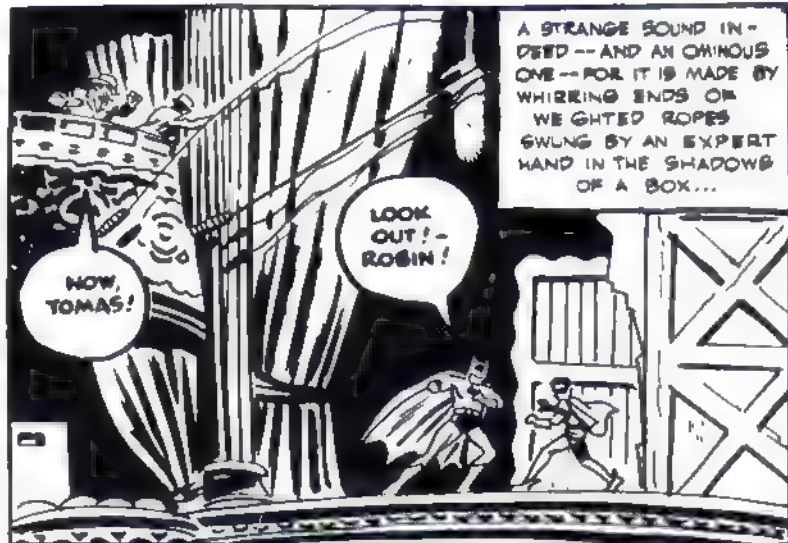
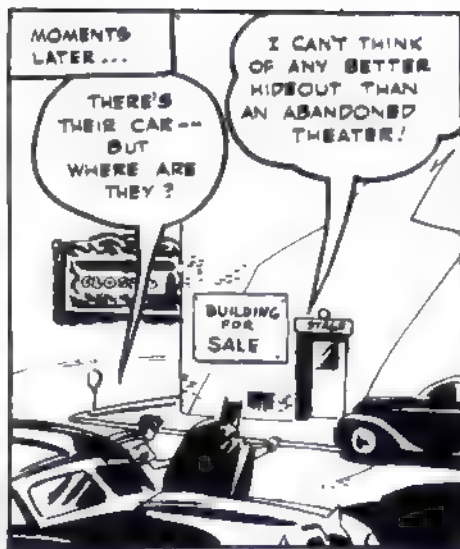
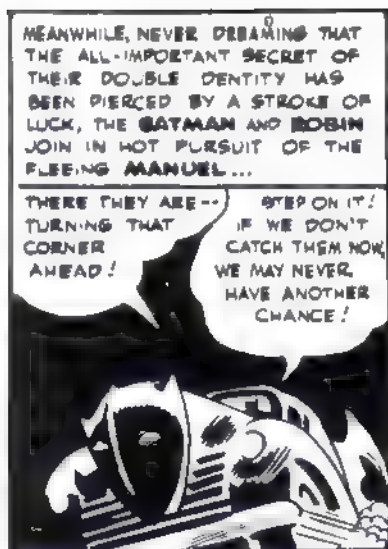
THERE CAN'T BE ANY DOUBT ABOUT IT-- MR. BRUCE WAYNE IS THE BATMAN, AND THE YOUNG MAWSTER IS ROBIN! HOW CLEVER OF ME TO HAVE DISCOVERED IT-- AND HOW FORTUNATE THEY ARE TO HAVE A MAN OF MY ABILITIES IN THEIR EMPLOY!



IN AN UNDERGROUND HANGAR... A LIGHT IS SWITCHED ON...

A PLANE WITH BAT-SHAPED WINGS! IT MUST BE THE FAMOUS BATPLANE I'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT! I DO BELIEVE I'M GOING TO MAKE AN AMAZING DEDUCTION.







BOUND AND GAGGED, THE hapless PRISONERS ARE HOISTED ALOFT—

AT LAST YOU HAVE BEEN OUTWITTED, BATMAN! YOU CANNOT SHOUT FOR HELP--AND IF YOU BREAK YOUR BONDS, YOU WILL BE DASHED TO PIECES BY THE FALL!

SOON WE SHALL BURN THE THEATER ABOUT YOUR EARS-- BUT FIRST, WE SHALL BRING A THIRD VICTIM TO SHARE YOUR FEEY FATE!



WE HAVE LEARNED THE THIRD MAN'S IDENTITY AND PRESENT ADDRESS FROM THE LABELS ON THE VALISE WHICH GAVE US SO MUCH TROUBLE! THEY FORMED A CODE MESSAGE SENT BY OUR CLEVER COLLEAGUES ABROAD!

DEATH FOR YOU AND A VAST FORTUNE FOR US! IS IT NOT DROLL?

LEFT ALONE, THE FLIGHT OF THE BATMAN AND ROBIN SEEMS HOPELESS...



WE'VE BEEN IN TIGHT SPOTS BEFORE BUT I CAN'T SEEM TO RECALL ANY TIGHTER THAN THIS!

IF ONLY THEY HADN'T GAGGED US! IT MIGHT HELP TO TALK THINGS OVER!

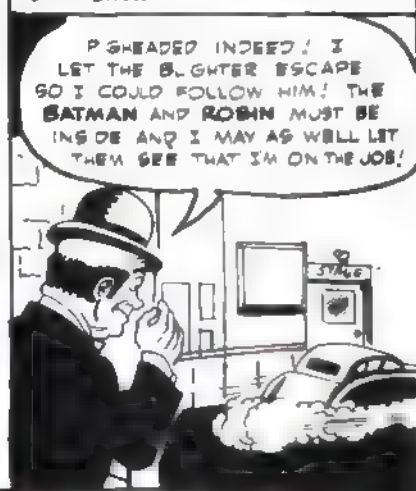
OUTSIDE THE ANCIENT THEATER, THE TWO CRIMINALS ARE JOINED BY THE R. COMPAN ON...

WE THOUGHT THE POLICE WOULD HAVE YOU BY NOW, AND WE WERE HEART-BROKEN BECAUSE YOU WOULD MISS YOUR SHARE OF THE SWAG!

YOU MEAN, YOU'RE HEARTBROKEN BECAUSE I'M HERE TO CLAIM IT?... IT WAS A SIMPLE MATTER TO ESCAPE FROM THAT P-SHEADED BUTLER!



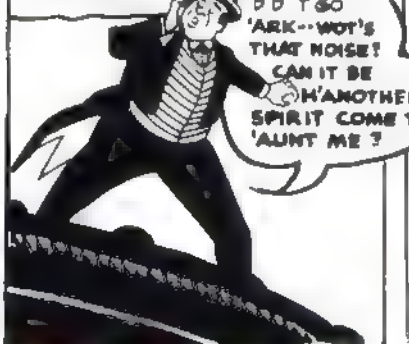
WHILE BEHIND A CONVENIENT BARRIER...



P-SHEADED INDEED! I LET THE SLIGHTER ESCAPE SO I COULD FOLLOW HIM! THE BATMAN AND ROBIN MUST BE INSIDE AND I MAY AS WELL LET THEM SEE THAT I'M ON THE JOB!

"ONCE A MUSIC HALL ACTOR, ALWAYS A HAM," IS A SAYING THAT HOLDS GOOD HERE AS ELSEWHERE...

PUTS ME IN MIND OF THE TIME I PLAYED THE ROLE OF A COCKNEY BUTLER IN A HAUNTED HOUSE. HOW DO I GO 'ARK--WOT'S THAT NOISE! CAN IT BE H'ANOTHER SPIRIT COME TO 'AUNT ME?



HIGH OVERHEAD, AN UNAPPRECIATIVE AUDIENCE HEARS LINES OF LOWBROW MELODRAMA.



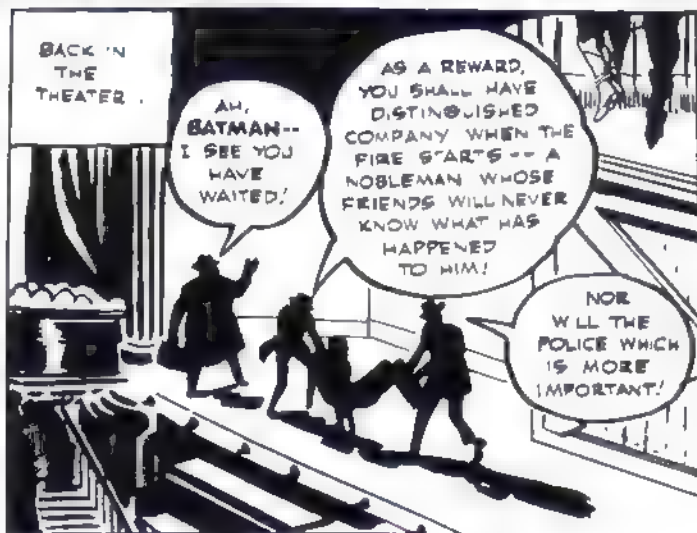
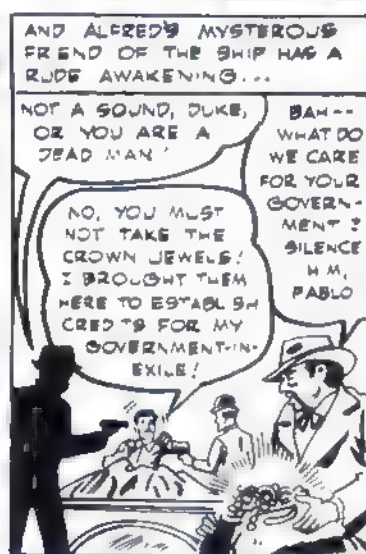
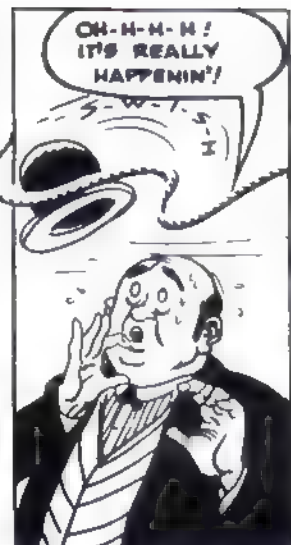
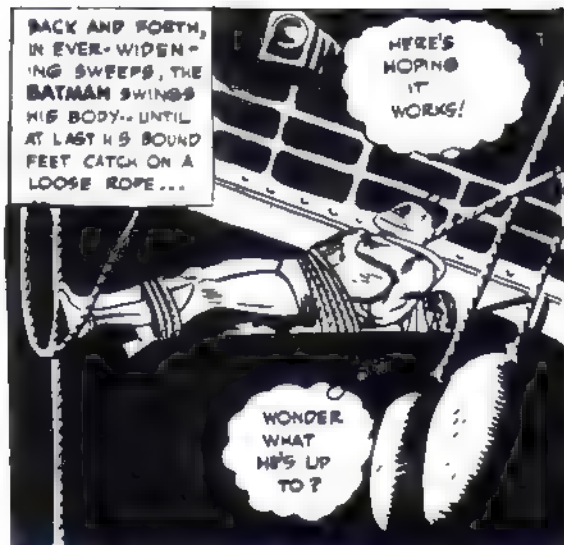
ONLY HE'D FORGET THE CORN AND LOOK THIS WAY!

THERE MUST BE SOME WAY TO ATTRACT HIS ATTENTION... MAYBE IF I START SWINGING...

H'I'M FAIR FED HUP WITH GHOSTS, SO H'I HAM! H'I SHALL TURN IN MY NOTICE!

OR PERHAPS THE BATMAN HAS BEEN HERE AND GONE... NO SIGN OF HIM... HAMM--QUITE A WHILE SINCE I'VE STOOD BEHIND THE FOOTLIGHTS!





BUT WITH LIGHTNING SWIFTNESS, HOODED FIGURES PLUMMET FROM THE SHADOWS OVERHEAD!

YOU'RE ABOUT TO HAVE SOME DISTINGUISHED COMPANY YOURSELF -- AND WE'RE IT!

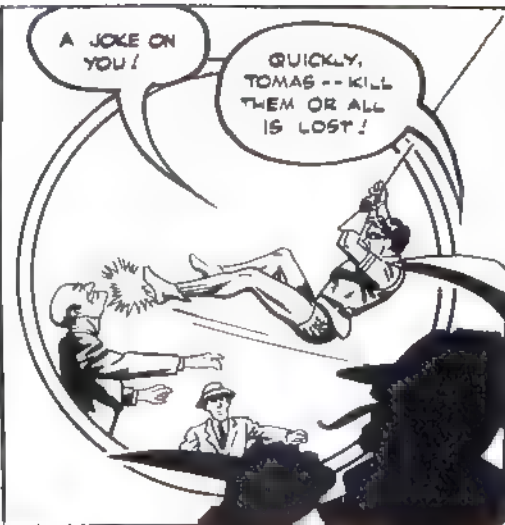
THIS CANNOT BE! IT IS A JOKE!

WHA--!



A JOKE ON YOU!

QUICKLY, TOMAS -- KILL THEM OR ALL IS LOST!

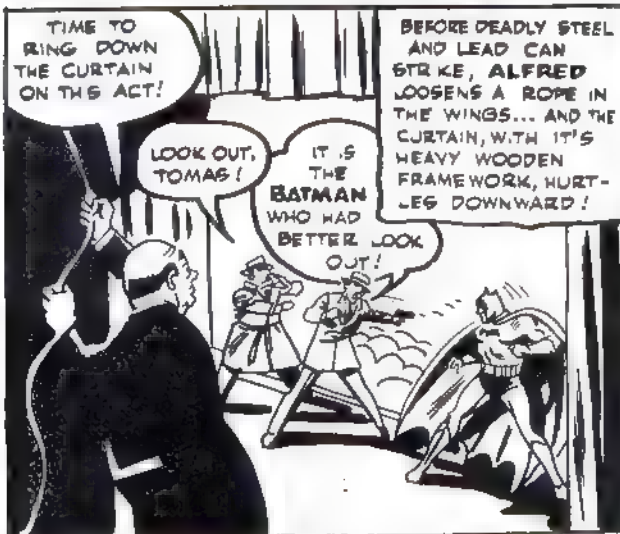


TIME TO RING DOWN THE CURTAIN ON THIS ACT!

LOOK OUT, TOMAS!

IT IS THE BATMAN WHO HAD BETTER LOOK OUT!

BEFORE DEADLY STEEL AND LEAD CAN STRIKE, ALFRED LOOSENS A ROPE IN THE WINGS... AND THE CURTAIN, WITH IT'S HEAVY WOODEN FRAMEWORK, HURTLES DOWNWARD!



THAT'S RIGHT-- TAKE A BOW! AH! GOOD WORK, OL' BEAN!

000-0-0...

A FITTING FINALE FOR A BAD ACTOR! EH, WOT?



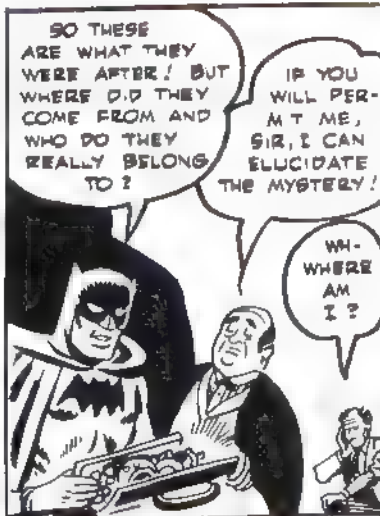
HERE'S AN ALL-STAR ACT TO FINISH THE BILL!



SO THESE ARE WHAT THEY WERE AFTER! BUT WHERE DID THEY COME FROM AND WHO DO THEY REALLY BELONG TO?

IF YOU WILL PERMIT ME, SIR, I CAN ELUCIDATE THE MYSTERY!

WH-- WHERE AM I?



THEY ARE THE CROWN JEWELS OF THE COUNTRY OF WHICH THIS MAN-- THE DUKE OF DORAN-- IS THE PREMIER! HE BROUGHT THEM HERE SECRETLY FOR HIS GOVERNMENT, BUT SOME-- NOW THESE CRIMINALS GOT WIND OF IT!

MY FRIEND! YOU HAVE SAVED MY LIFE AND MY COUNTRY'S TREASURES-- AND TO THINK I LAUGHED WHEN YOU SAID YOU WERE AN AMATEUR DETECTIVE!

AND HE WASN'T THE ONLY ONE WHO LAUGHED!



THE FOLLOWING EVENING...

ALFRED'S PRETTY PROUD SINCE WE GAVE HIM FULL CREDIT FOR THIS CASE! I REALLY THOUGHT HE'D DONE A GREAT JOB OF DETECTING, TILL IT TURNED OUT HE GOT ALL HIS INFORMATION BY ACCIDENT!

FOR AWHILE I WAS AFRAID HE'D FIND OUT WHO WE REALLY ARE-- BUT IF WE'RE CAREFUL IT WILL BE SAFE TO LET HIM STAY, SINCE HE ISN'T TOO BRIGHT!

BEG PARDON, SRS... YOU'LL BE GOING OUT DIRECTLY, AND I THOUGHT I MIGHT ASSIST YOU WITH YOUR UNIFORMS!

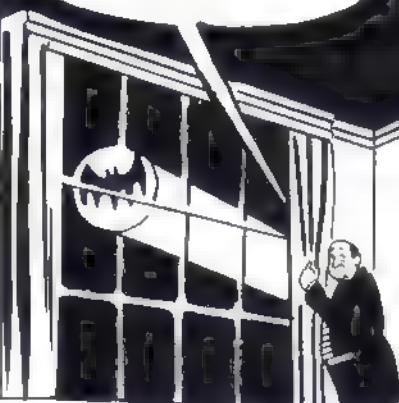
WHAT'S THIS?

HUM?... THOSE CLOAKS... WHY, WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?



THE SEARCHLIGHT WENT ON A FEW SECONDS AGO! I BELIEVE IT MEANS THE POLICE REQUIRE THE BATMAN'S SERVICES.

THE SIGNAL!... BUT-- BUT WHAT'S THAT TO DO WITH US?



YOU FORGET MY DEDUCTIVE ABILITIES! I HAVE KNOWN SINCE LAST NIGHT THAT YOU WERE THE BATMAN AND ROBIN-- BUT I SAW NO REASON TO MENTION IT TILL NOW!

SOMETHING TELLS ME I WAS WRONG IN WHAT I SAID A MINUTE AGO, BRUCE!

COULD BE!



WELL, YOU'RE ONE OF US NOW, ALFRED! I HOPE YOU REALIZE THAT IF YOUR KNOWLEDGE LEAKED OUT, ROBIN'S LIFE AND MINE WOULD BE FORFEIT. CRIMINALS WOULD HAVE AN EASIER TIME OF IT!

I UNDERSTAND PERFECTLY, AND YOU MAY RELY UTTERLY ON MY DISCRETION! YOUR CLOAK, SIR...

I DON'T THINK WE NEED TO WORRY!



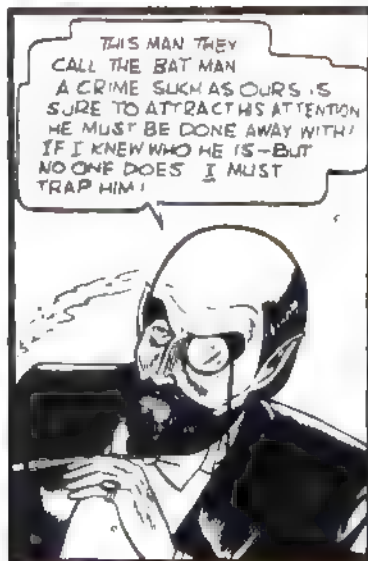
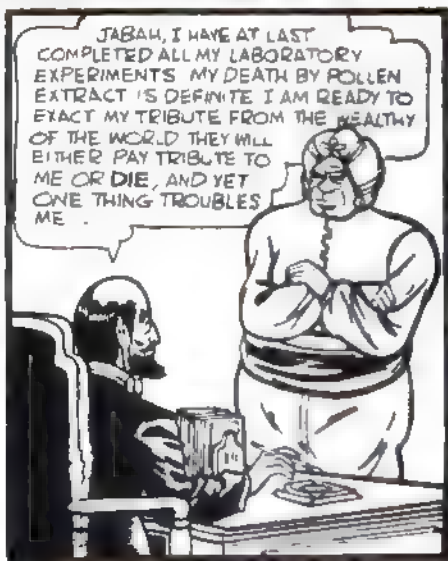
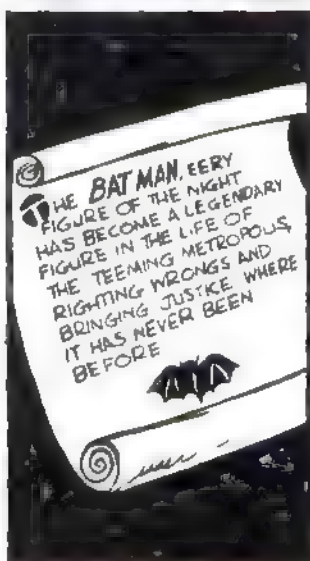
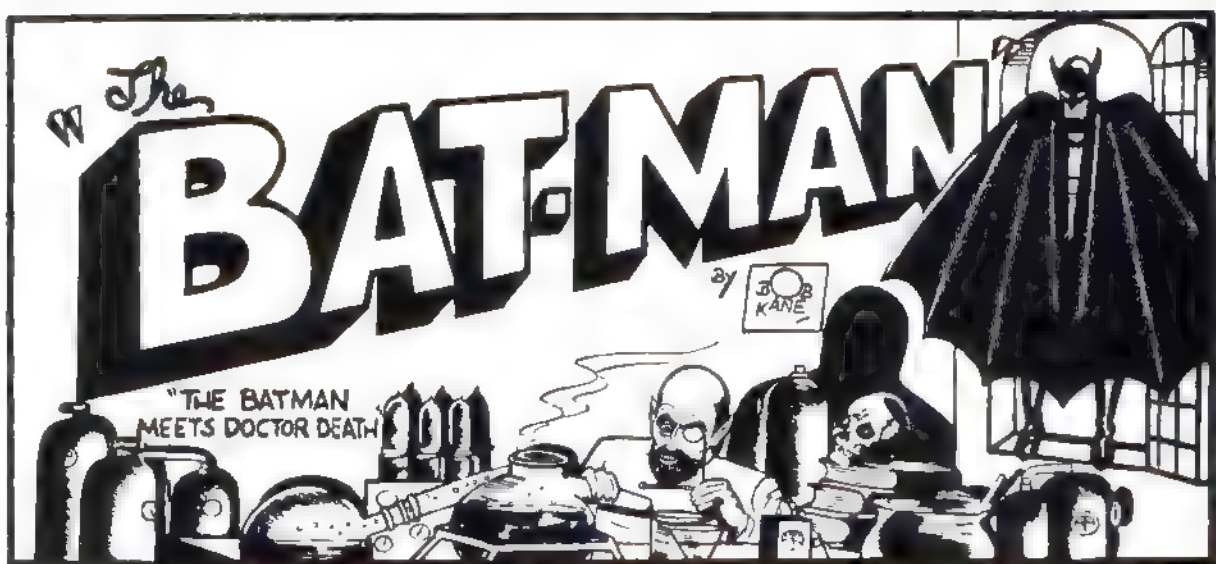
MOMENTS LATER, THE BATPLANE RACES THROUGH THE NIGHT SKY...

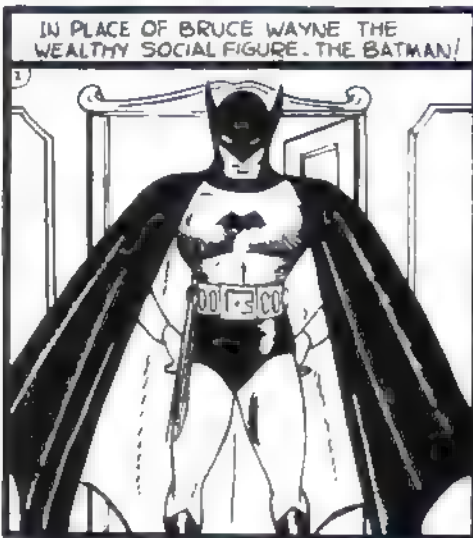
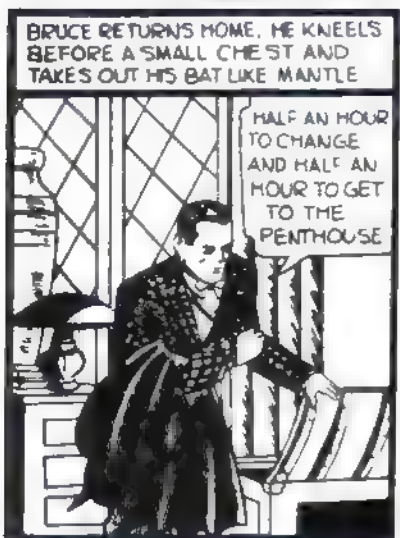
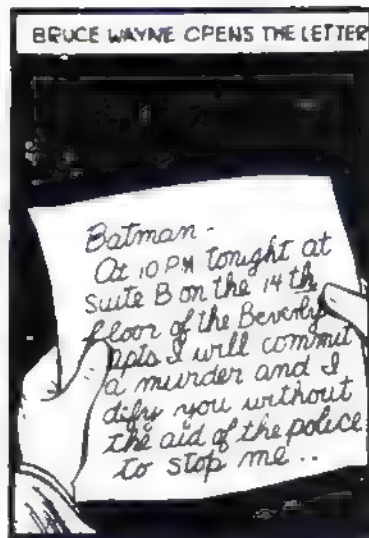
AND AS THE DARING HEROES KEEP ANOTHER RENDEZVOUS WITH HIGH ADVENTURE, ALFRED MAKES A COMPROMISE WITH HIS CONSCIENCE!

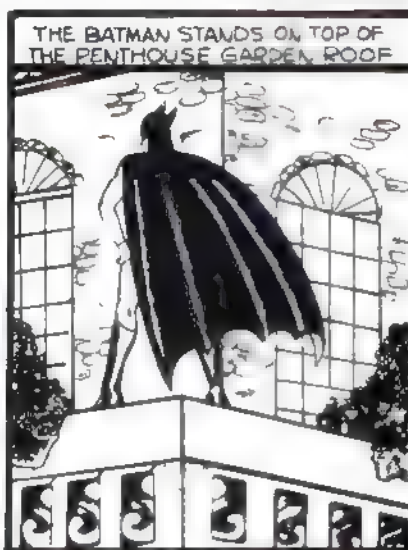
THEY ARE SO IMPRESSED WITH ME, IT WOULD NEVER DO TO TELL THEM I LEARNED THEIR IDENTITY BY SHEER LUCK! MUCH BETTER TO ACT MYSTERIOUS AND SAY NOTHING!

ALFRED CAN BE USEFUL. AT THAT! HE SAVED OUR LIVES IN THE THEATER! HE MUST BE SMARTER THAN WE THINK TO HAVE SEEN THROUGH OUR DISGUISE!









FOR A QUICK GETAWAY
THE BATMAN HAS HIS
ROPE HANDY



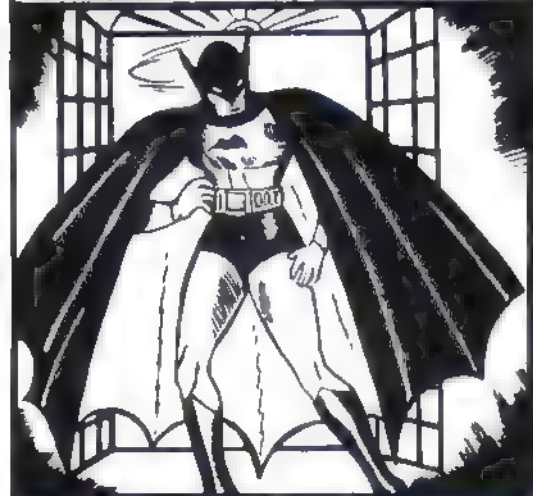
THE BATMAN SURVEYS HIS GROUND CAUTIOUSLY



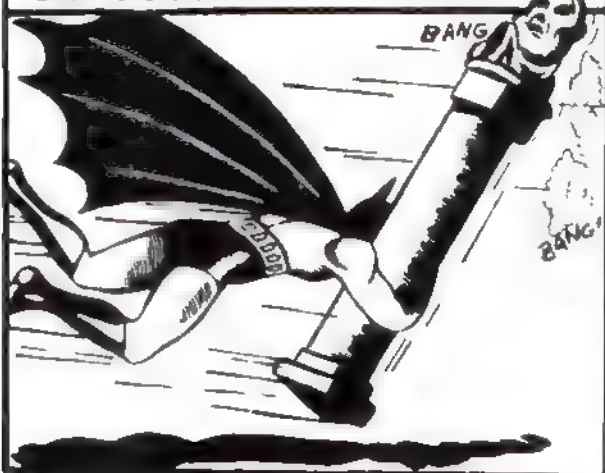
UNSEEN BY THE BATMAN ARE THE GUNMEN
PLACED TO TRAP HIM BY DOCTOR DEATH



THE LIGHTS BLAZE ON - AND THE BATMAN
IS CAUGHT IN A TRAP -



BUT THE GUNMEN RECKON WITHOUT THE GREAT SPEED AND AGILITY OF THE BATMAN



-AND THE HIRED KILLERS GO DOWN.



QUICK AS A PANTHER THE BATMAN IS UPON THE GUNMEN LASHING OUT WITH BOTH FISTS



... AND WHO SENT YOU, MAY I ASK?



YOUR CHOICE GENTLEMEN! TELL ME! OR I'LL KILL YOU!



GOOD EVENING, BATMAN DOCTOR DEATH SENDS HIS GREETINGS



JABAH FIRES!



THE BATMAN IS HIT!



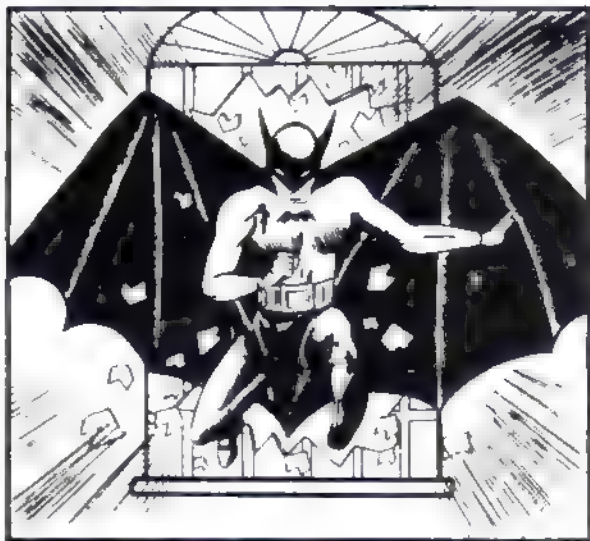
THE WOUNDED BATMAN EJECTS
A GLASS PELLET FROM HIS BELT



THE BATMAN HOLDS HIS BREATH
AND SLAMS THE GLASS PELLET ON
THE FLOOR IN FRONT OF THE
GIANT INDIAN



THE ROOM BECOMES FILLED WITH A DEADLY GAS
THE WOUNDED BATMAN LEAPS FOR THE GLASS
WINDOWS LEADING TO THE PENTHOUSE ROOF



BUT WHAT THE GUYS OF
DOCTOR DEATH FAIL TO SEE



THE BATMAN SWINGS ONTO
A PROJECTING CORNICE
OF THE ROOF



THE BLOOD STILL SEEPING FROM HIS WOUND, HE SLIPS ON HIS SUCTION GLOVES AND KNEE PADS

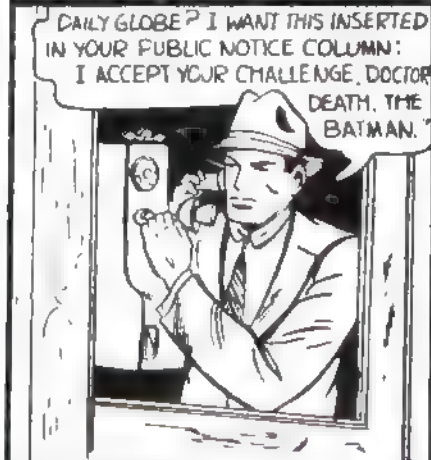


THE BATMAN IN HIS CAR, PLACES A PAD OF COTTON ON HIS BARED SHOULDER



THIS LL KEEP UNTIL I GET TO A PHONE BOOTH

DRESSED IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES ONCE MORE, BRUCE WAYNE, THE BATMAN, ENTERS A PHONE BOOTH



DAILY GLOBE? I WANT THIS INSERTED IN YOUR PUBLIC NOTICE COLUMN: I ACCEPT YOUR CHALLENGE, DOCTOR DEATH. THE BATMAN.

I GUESS I'D BETTER SEE THE FAMILY DOCTOR AT ONCE THIS SHOULDER IS BEGINNING TO ACHE



IT'S ALL RIGHT NOW, BRUCE BUT HOW DID YOU SHOOT YOURSELF WHEN THERE ARE NO POWDER MARKS ON YOUR FLESH?



I DO FUNNY THINGS SOMETIMES, DOC. I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT SOMEDAY THANKS FOR EVERYTHING

THE NEXT MORNING IN DOCTOR DEATH'S STUDY



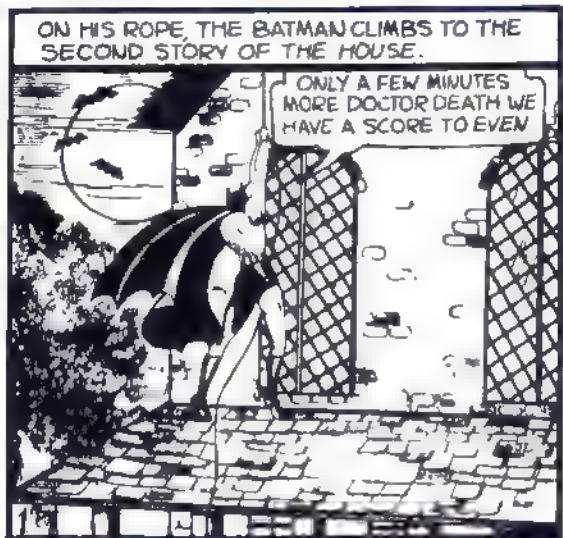
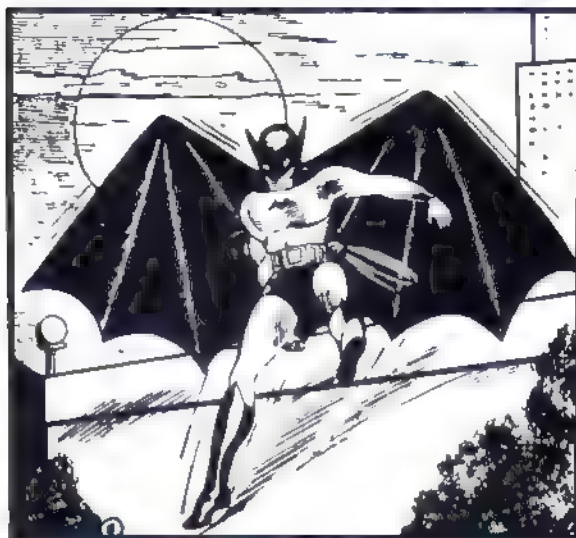
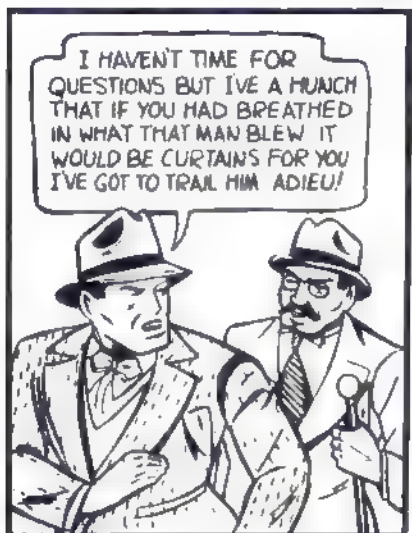
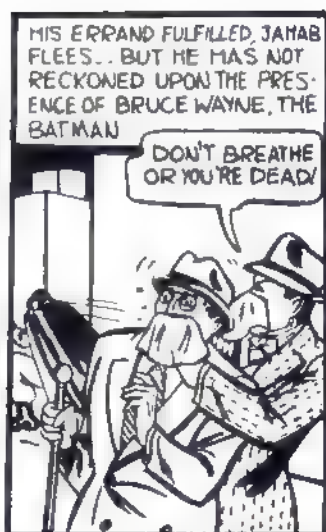
YOU FOOLS! YOU BUNGLERS! HE WALKS INTO A TRAP AND YOU LET HIM GO IF YOU MISS THE NEXT TIME FOLLOW ME, JABAH!

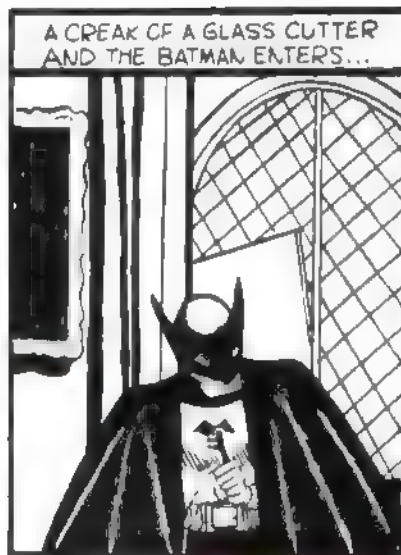
HERE IS A PICTURE OF JOHN P VAN SMITH HE REFUSES TO PAY TRIBUTE TO ME. HE MUST DIE! I HAVE IMMUNED YOU WITH MY SERUM FROM THIS POLLEN WHICH YOU WILL BLOW AT YOUR VICTIM AS HE COMES FROM HIS CLUB TONIGHT



JABAH GOES ON HIS ERRAND OF DEATH







THE BATMAN PURSUES
DOCTOR DEATH RELENTLESSLY



DOCTOR DEATH RETURNS
TO THE LABORATORY IN A
LAST DESPERATE ATTEMPT
TO ELUDE THE BATMAN



THE BATMAN SEIZES A FIRE
EXTINGUISHER ON THE WALL AND -



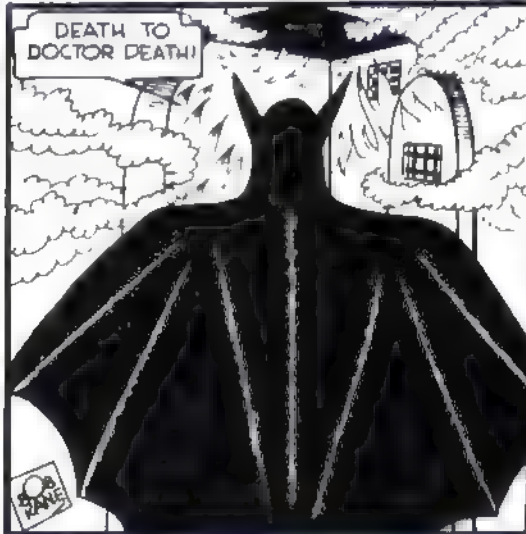
FLINGS IT AT DOCTOR DEATH KNOCKING THE DEADLY
TUBE TO THE FLOOR WHERE IT SWIFTLY IGNITES
INTO A BLAZING INFERNO!!!



YOU ARE THE
POOR FOOL! HE
HAS GONE MAD



DEATH TO
DOCTOR DEATH!



BUT IS IT DEATH TO
THIS ARCH CRIMINAL?
FOLLOW THE FURTHER
AMAZING AND UNIQUE
ADVENTURES OF THE



IN
Next Month's
DETECTIVE COMICS

The BATMAN

PRESENTS

THE Sensational CHARACTER

FIND OF 1940....

Robin-

THE BOY WONDER



THE BATMAN
 THAT AMAZING WEIRD FIGURE
 OF NIGHT, AT LAST TAKES UNDER
 HIS PROTECTING MANTLE, AN ALLY
 IN HIS RELENTLESS FIGHT AGAINST
 CRIME. INTRODUCING IN THIS ISSUE
 AN EXCITING NEW FIGURE WHOSE
 INCREDIBLE GYMNASTIC AND ATHLETIC
 FEATS WILL ASTOUND YOU. A
 LAUGHING FIGHTING YOUNG DARE-
 DEVIL WHO SCOFFS AT DANGER
 LIKE THE LEGENDARY ROBIN
 HOOD WHOSE NAME AND SPIRIT
 HE HAS ADOPTED.
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

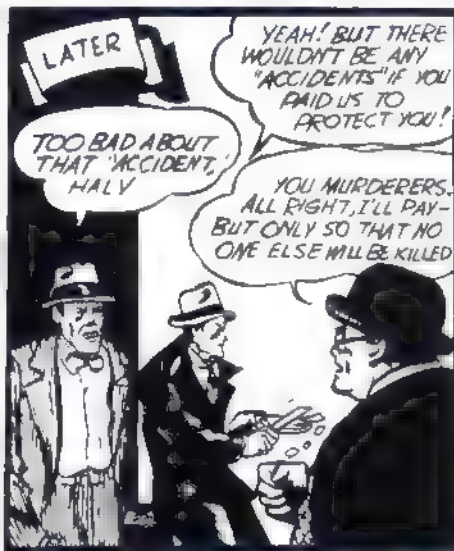
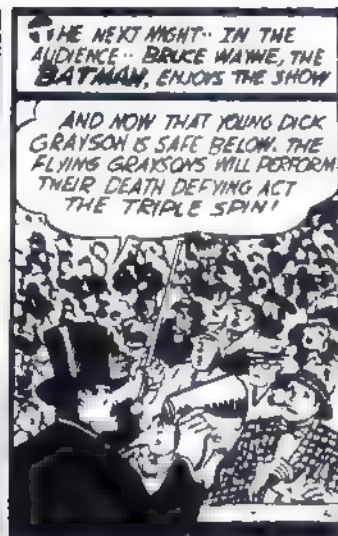
LEGEND

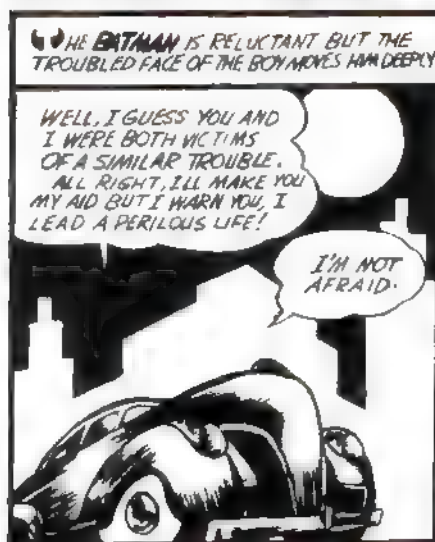
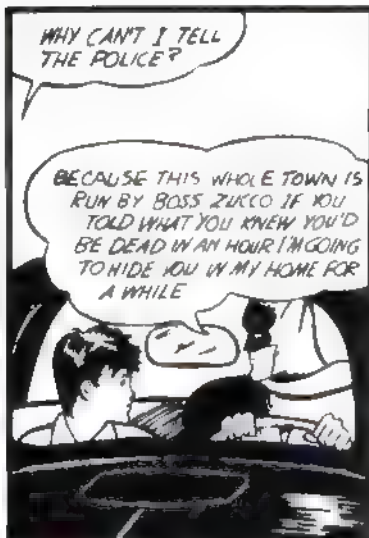
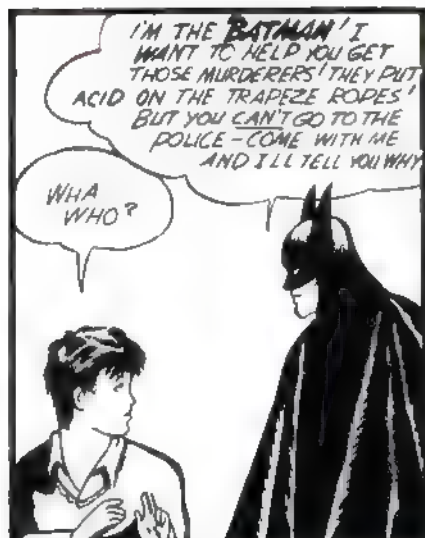
ROBIN
 THE BOY
 WONDER
 AND HOW
 HE BECAME
 THE ALLY
 OF THE
BATMAN

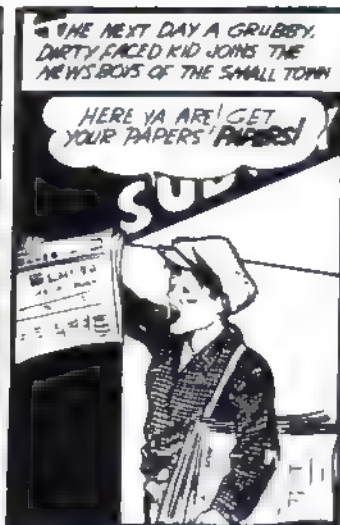
OUR SCENE A RISING YOUNG TOWN OUTSIDE THE BIG
 CITY WHERE THE HALLY CIRCUS PLAYS AN ENGAGEMENT....
 INSIDE THE BIG TENT THE FLYING GRAYSONS, FATHER,
 MOTHER AND YOUNG SON DICK, SWING ON THE FLYING TRAPEZE



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INSIDE THE MYSTERIOUS HOUSE

WELL BOSS, THERE IT IS THE TAKE OF THE WEEK!
IT ISN'T ENOUGH! SEE! YOU'VE GOT TO GET MORE MONEY OUT OF OUR CUSTOMERS. SEE! I WANT YOU TO GO TO THE BUTCHERS, THE TAILORS, LAUNDRIES AND THE REST AND MILK 'EM DRY, SEE!



ALL OF THEM GET IT, SEE! EVEN THE NEWSBOYS AND THE REST OF THE SMALL STUFF! AND IF THEY DON'T PLAY BALL, YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO. SEE!! START TOMORROW NIGHT!



TOMORROW NIGHT! WOW! BETTER TELL THE BATMAN RIGHT AWAY!



NEXT NIGHT A TAILOR STORE

BUT I CAN'T PAY YOU ANY MORE! I HAVEN'T GOT IT!

GET IT!

AND IF YOU DON'T



SUDDENLY FROM BEHIND

DON'T TALK SO MUCH!!



HOLLOW, JUST AS I THOUGHT!



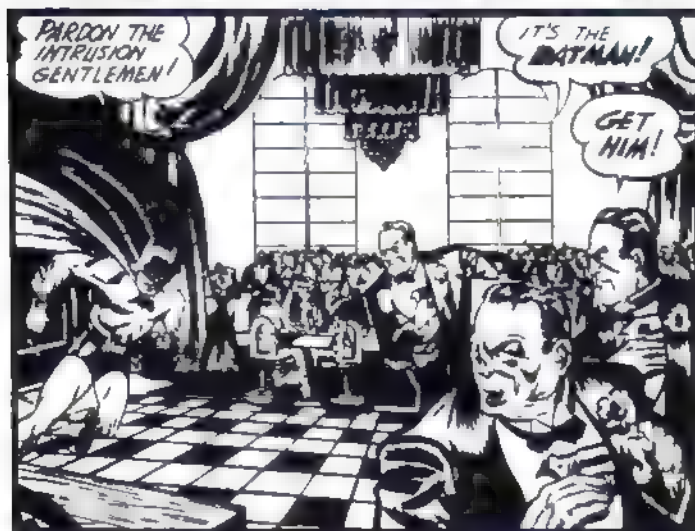
IF YOU SEE BOSS ZUCCO TELL HIM THE BATMAN WAS HERE GOOD DAY GENTLEMEN!

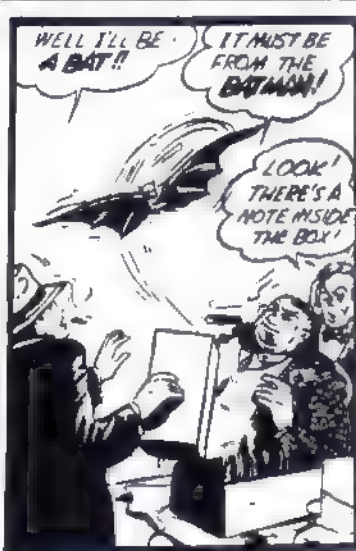
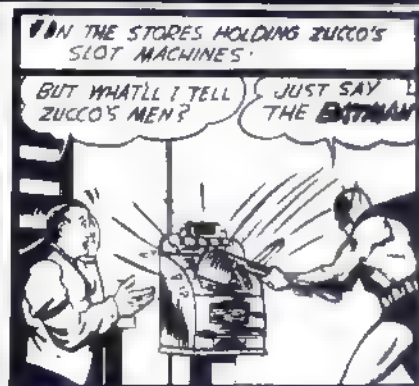
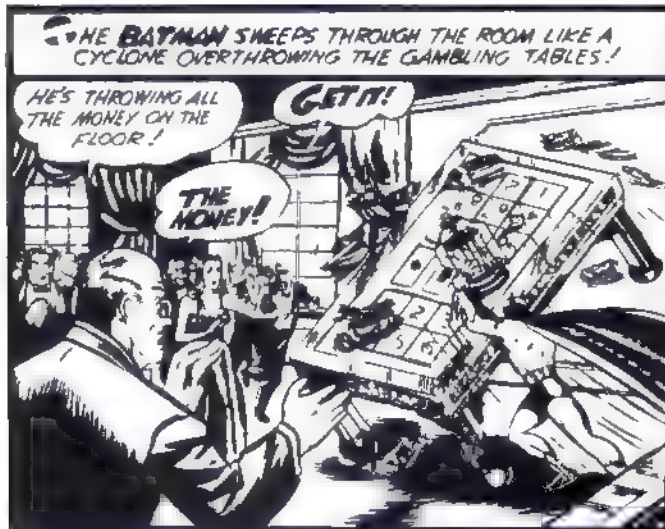


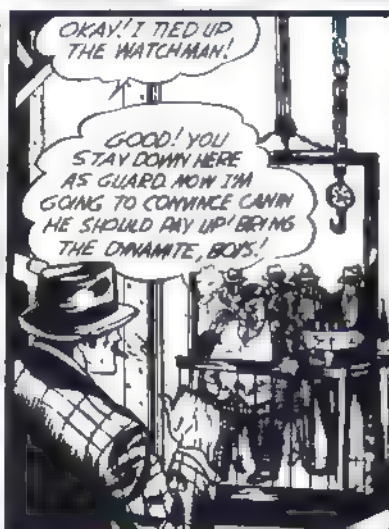
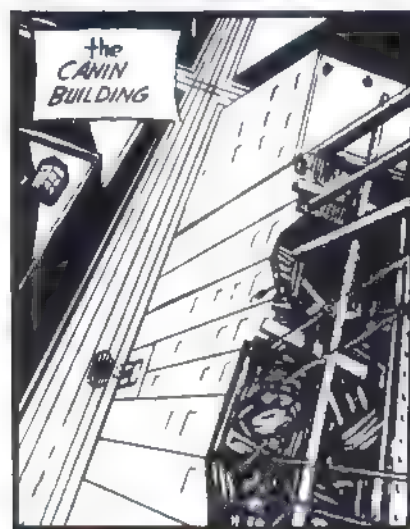
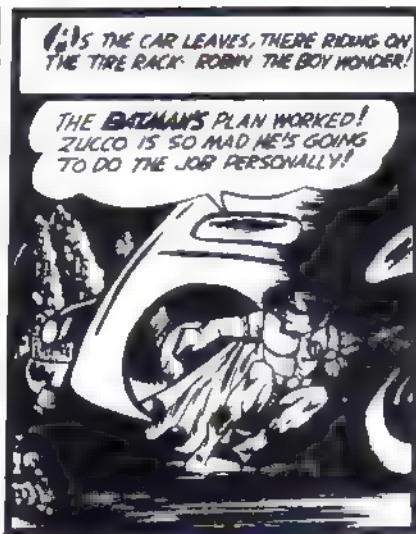
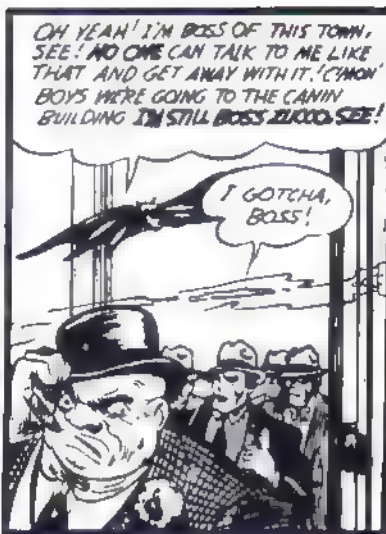
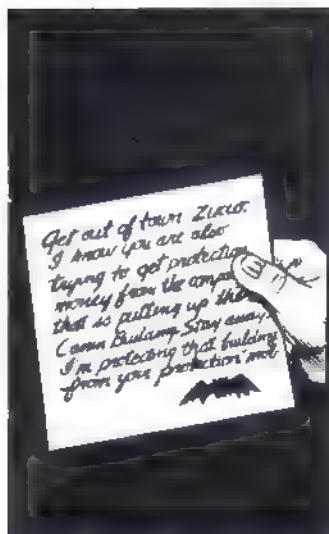
IN A BUTCHER SHOP...

PAY UP OR ELSE YOU'LL WHA?

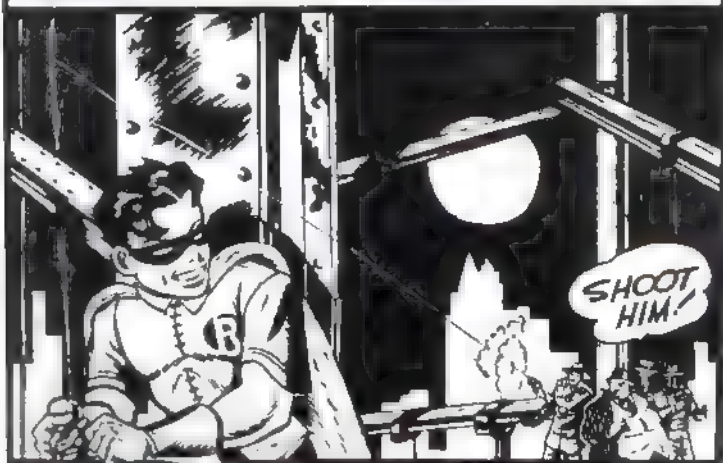








AS A SHOT WHISTLES PAST, ROBIN TAKES A STONE FROM HIS BELT AND PLACES IT IN A QUEER LOOKING INSTRUMENT - THE SLING SHOT



LIKE DAVID FIGHTING GOLIATH ROBIN FIGHTS THE GANGSTERS!



A BULLS-EYE!



AN AMAZING LEAP



A SWEEPING SWING



AND THE YOUNG DARE-DEVIL LANDS AMONG THE MURDEROUS GUNMEN!



USING HIS KNOWLEDGE OF JIU JITSU TAUGHT BY THE BATMAN, THE LUCKY BOY PUTS UP A STIFF FIGHT AGAINST OVERWHELMING ODDS.



SUDDENLY ROBIN SLIPS!

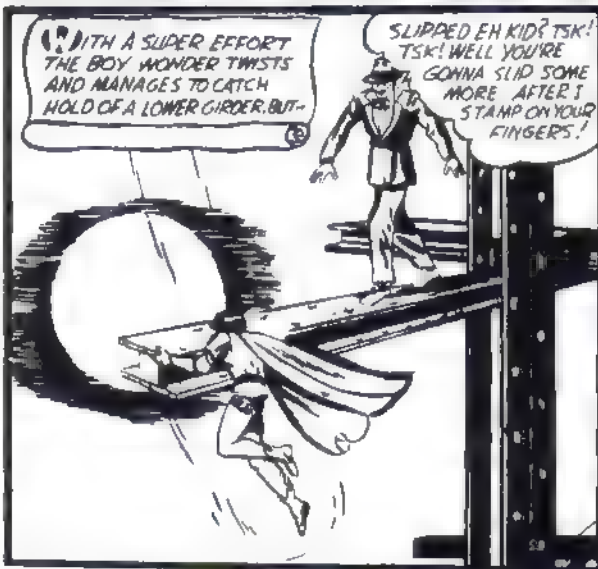


BUT AS THE GANGSTER STEPS ON ROBIN'S FINGERS THE WONDER BOY TWISTS HIS BODY UP AND AROUND THE GIRDER.



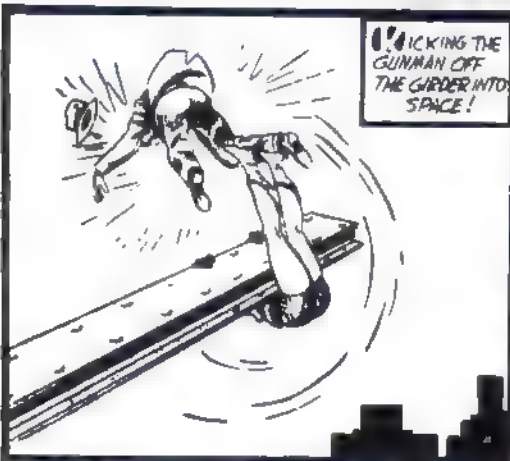
WITH A SUPER EFFORT THE BOY WONDER TWISTS AND MANAGES TO CATCH HOLD OF A LOWER GIRDER, BUT-

SLIPPED EH KID? TSK! TSK! WELL YOU'RE GONNA SLID SOME MORE AFTER I STAMP ON YOUR FINGERS!



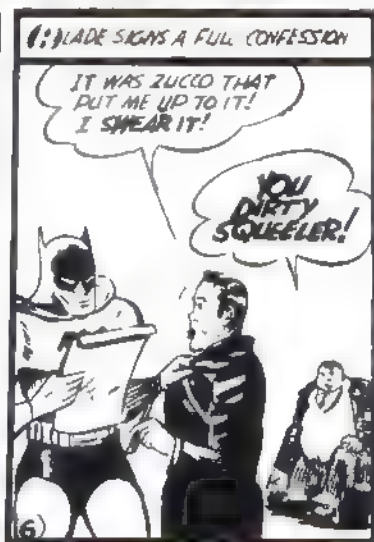
SAY YOUR PRAYERS, BUDDY!

A WISE KID, EH? LET'S SEE YOU GET OUT OF THIS



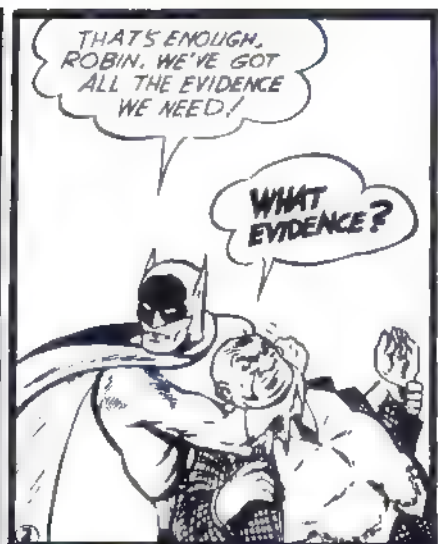
KICKING THE GUNMAN OFF THE GIRDER INTO SPACE!





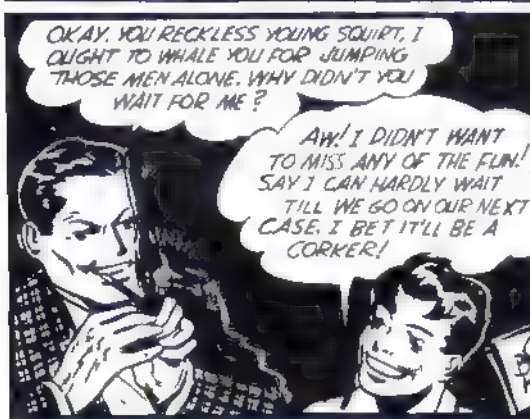
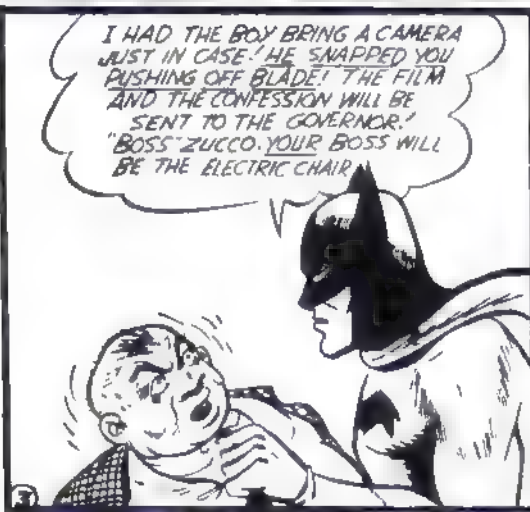


THE CRAZED ZUCCO LUNGES AT BLADE - TEARING HIM FROM THE BATMAN'S GRIP - AND



DAYS LATER

EXTRA!



THRILLS
THRILLS AND MORE THRILLS...
 IS WHAT THAT AMAZING CHARACTER
 the **BATMAN**
 AND
 THE Sensational FIND OF 1940 **Robin**
 THE BOY WONDER OF THE COMIC STRIPS ... GIVE YOU IN EVERY ISSUE ... WITH THEIR ASTOUNDING EXPLOITS
 WATCH FOR NEXT MONTH'S THRILLING EPISODE




BATMAN

WITH
Robin
-THE BOY WONDER-

GAIN THE MIGHTY **BATMAN** AND THAT YOUNG LAUGHING **ROBIN HOOD** OF TODAY, **ROBIN** THE BOY WONDER, PLUNGE DEEP INTO BAFFLING MYSTERY AGAIN THEY FIGHT A MASTER OF CRIME, A MASTER OF MURDER 'A BLACK CLOAKED, HIDEOUS FIGURE THAT MENACES THEIR VERY LIVES AS HE LEAVES BEHIND A TRAIL OF CORPSES!

!! BRUCE WAYNE SPEAKS TO YOUNG DICK GRAYSON WHO IS THE ONLY LIVING PERSON TO KNOW HIM AS **BATMAN!**

YEP, JULIE IS NOW A MOTION PICTURE ACTRESS I'M GOING OVER TO THE STUDIO TO MEET HER

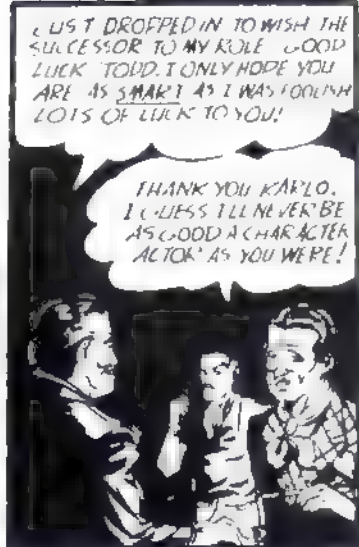
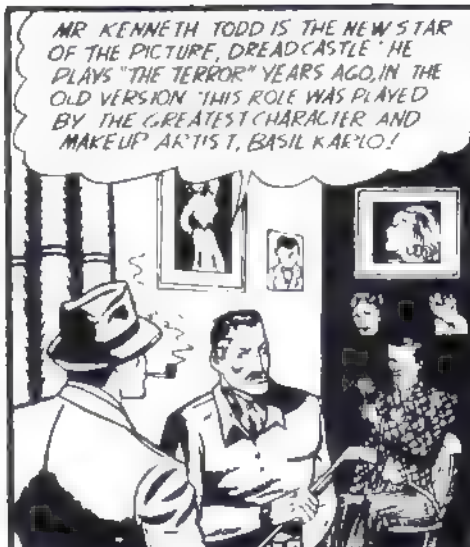
SO YOUR FIANCEE IS ACTING IN THAT NEW HORROR PICTURE THEY'RE MAKING OVER AT ARGUS?

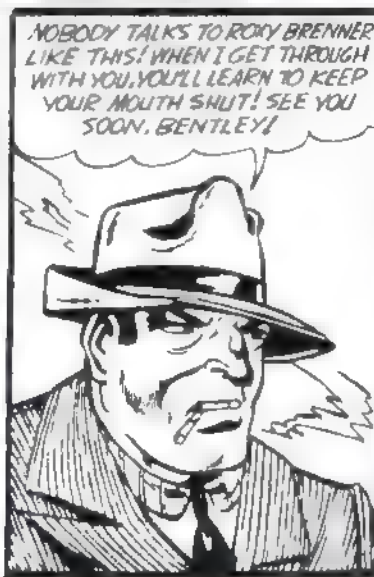
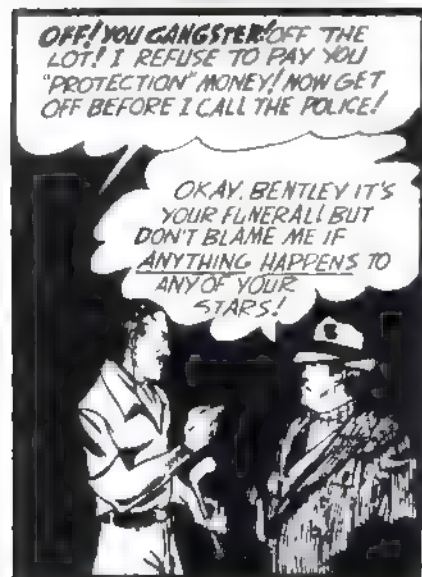
THE STUDIO OF THE ARGUS MOTION PICTURE COMPANY.

AND THIS, BRUCE IS MR. BENTLEY, HEAD OF ARGUS PICTURES

MR WAYNE, IF JULIE KEEPS UP HER FINE WORK SHE'LL BE A STAR IN NO TIME

HOW DO YOU DO?







FEW DAYS LATER BRUCE VISITS JULIE ON THE SET OF DREAD CASTLE

WELL, THIS IS WHAT I CALL **BIG** - WITH CAPITAL LETTERS!

WHEN ARGUS MAKES A PICTURE IT IS ALWAYS **BIG**!

THEY'RE GOING TO SHOOT THE SCENE NOW. THIS IS WHERE THE "TERROR" IS SUPPOSED TO "KILL" THE COUNTESS

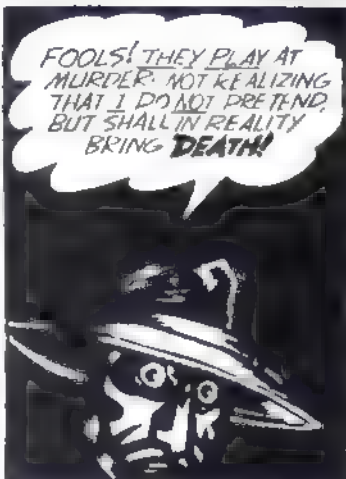


THE CAMERAS GRIND AND THE "MURDER" SCENE OF "DREAD CASTLE" BEGINS.

PREPARE TO DIE, COUNTESS!

AAAAH! THE TERROR!

BUT FROM THE DARKENED CORNER OF THE SET A HIDEOUS FACE WATCHES WITH BALEFUL EYES...



FOOLS! THEY PLAY AT MURDER. NOT REALIZING THAT I DO NOT PRETEND, BUT SHALL IN REALITY BRING **DEATH**!



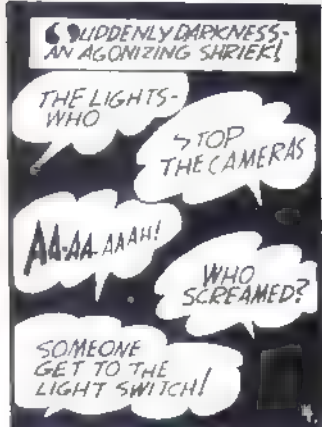
ON THE SET THE PLAYERS CONTINUE THEIR ACTING. - UNAWARE OF THE GRIM AND GRUESOME FIGURE WATCHING

NOW, COUNTESS. DIE!



BUT THAT MOMENT A HAIRY HAND REACHES FOR THE LIGHT SWITCH!

NOW, LORNA DANE. DIE!



SUDDENLY DARKNESS - AN AGONIZING SHRIEK!

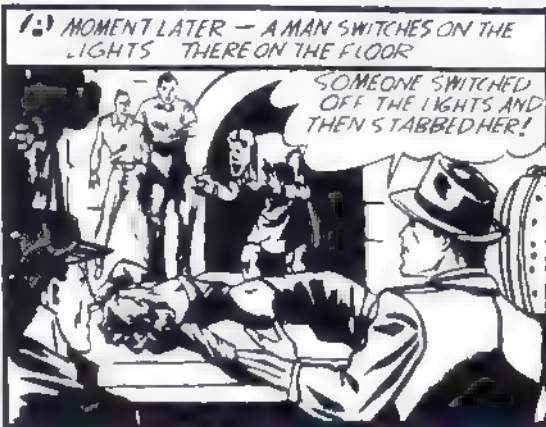
THE LIGHTS - WHO

TOP THE CAMERAS

AAAA-AAH!

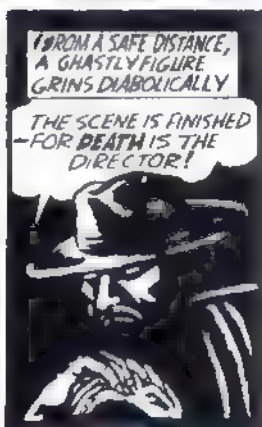
WHO SCREAMED?

SOMEONE GET TO THE LIGHT SWITCH!



MOMENT LATER - A MAN SWITCHES ON THE LIGHTS THERE ON THE FLOOR

SOMEONE SWITCHED OFF THE LIGHTS AND THEN S TABBED HER!



FROM A SAFE DISTANCE, A GHASTLY FIGURE GRINS DIABOLICALLY

THE SCENE IS FINISHED - FOR **DEATH** IS THE DIRECTOR!

THOUGH POLICE INVESTIGATE, AT THE END OF A WEEK THEY ARE FORCED TO REPORT-- "LORNA DANE MURDERED BY PERSON OR PERSONS UNKNOWN!"

SOON A WORRIED JULIE VISITS BRUCE.

AND NOW THE STUDIO IS GOING AHEAD WITH THE PICTURE AND IN THE NEXT SCENE I'M SUPPOSED TO BE "KILLED" BY THE "TERROR" I'M AFRAID! SUPPOSE

DON'T WORRY, DEAR! THE MURDERER WON'T TRY FOR YOU HE JUST WANTED TO KILL LORNA.

AS JULIE LEAVES

I'M WORRIED MYSELF! SUPPOSE JULIE IS RIGHT! DICK! PUT ON YOUR OUTFIT! WE'RE GOING OUT!

MOMENT LATER

BATMAN, THE DARK KNIGHT, AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER

ALL SET?

LET'S GO!

THE GATES OF ARGUS PICTURES!

IT SAYS NO ADMITTANCE BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN US, ROBIN!

INSIDE THE STUDIO

YOU SAID SOMETHING WOULD HAPPEN TO MY STARS YOU GANGSTER! DID YOU KILL LORNA DANE?

BETTER PAY UP, BENTLEY!

MAYBE BETTER PAY UP THE "PROTECTION" MONEY OR ELSE YOU WON'T HAVE ANY DOUBTS!

SUDDENLY HURTLING THROUGH THE AIR BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER!!

I THINK YOU'RE THE ONE WHO IS LOOKING FOR TROUBLE!

WHA...? I'M ATTACKED BY AN ELF!

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR TROUBLE, BENTLEY, WHY SAY...!!





BATMAN
QUESTIONS
BENTLEY

I'M GOING TO CLEAN
UP YOUR MYSTERY
FOR YOU NOW THAT
ROXY BRENNER IS OUT
WHO ELSE WOULD WANT
TO KILL LORNA DANE?

FRED WALKER HER
OLD "WEE THEART"
OR PERHAPS NED NORTON
DID IT SO HE COULD GET
EVEN WITH ME
AND STOP THE
PICTURE



ROBIN YOU STAY HERE AND
KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN. I'M
GOING TO PAY A VISIT TO
FRED WALKER, LORNA DANE'S
JILTED "WEE THEART!"

RIGHT!



LATER BATMAN
CLEARS THE FENCE
SURROUNDING
WALKER'S HOME!



A PASS KEY IS USED AND
THE DOOR SLOWLY OPENS

HMM
NOBODY
HOME?



THE BATMAN SEARCHES
FRUITLESSLY THROUGH
THE HOUSE THEN IN A
FINAL CLOSET

GOOD HEAVENS!
WHAT'S THIS?



HANGING FROM A HOOK
IN THE CLOSET IS FRED WALKER!

OH HELP
HELP ME!

WALKER!
WHAT IS IT?
WHAT'S HAPPENED?



WALKER! CAN YOU
HEAR ME? WHO DID
THIS TO YOU?

CLAYFACE!
CLAYFACE!
HE AAAAAH!



DEAD! CLAYFACE HE SAID! WHO
IS CLAYFACE? NOT ROXY BRENNER
CERTAINLY NOT THIS DEAD MAN. CAN
IT BE NED NORTON, THE DIRECTOR
OR PERHAPS KEN TODD???

MEANWHILE,
WHAT OF
ROBIN
WHO WALKS
THE
DESERTED
STUDIO
GROUNDS?



SUDDENLY
HE SPILS
LIGHT ON
DREAD
CASTLE!

LIGHT! IT
SEEMS I'M NOT
THE ONLY ONE
OUT TONIGHT!



...THINK I
INVESTIGATE!

BUT FROM HIGH ABOVE THE
BOY IS SPIED: THE MYSTERIOUS
CLAYFACE!



HMM... SOMEONE
IS INQUISITIVE
BUT NOT FOR
LONG AHAA!

ROBIN ENTERS THE GLOOMY CASTLE



GOSH! WHAT
A SPOT FOR
A MURDER!

UNAWARE OF THE LURKING TERROR
AT THE TOP ROBIN ASCENDS THE LONG
WINDING TAIRASE TO THE LAST TOWER



LOOKS LIKE MY
GUEST WILLING
HIS LAST ME!

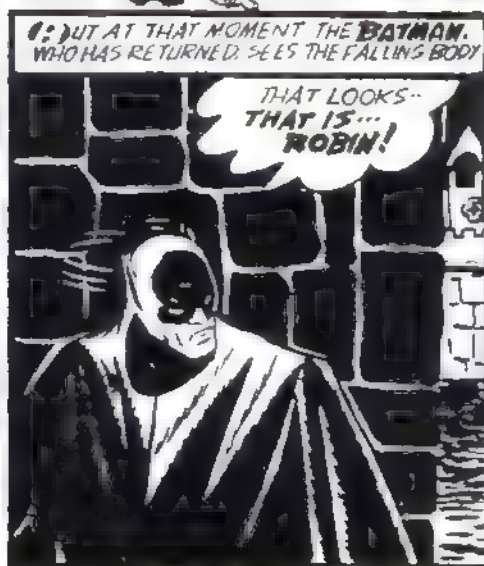
CLAYFACE
LEAPS

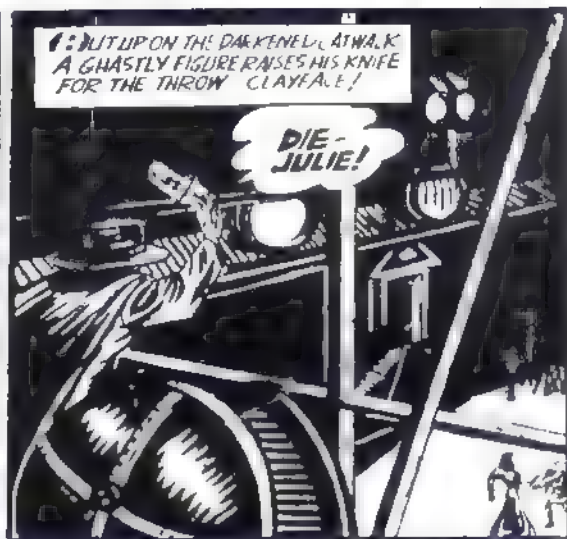
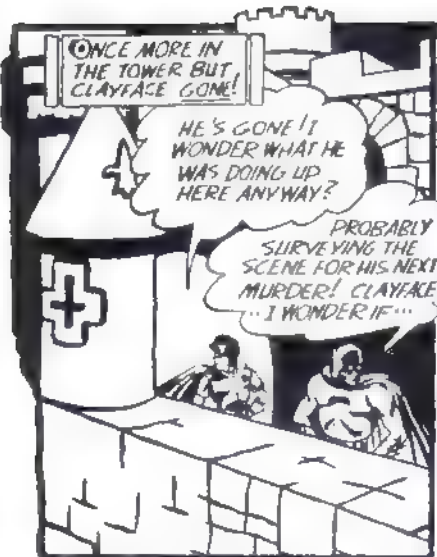


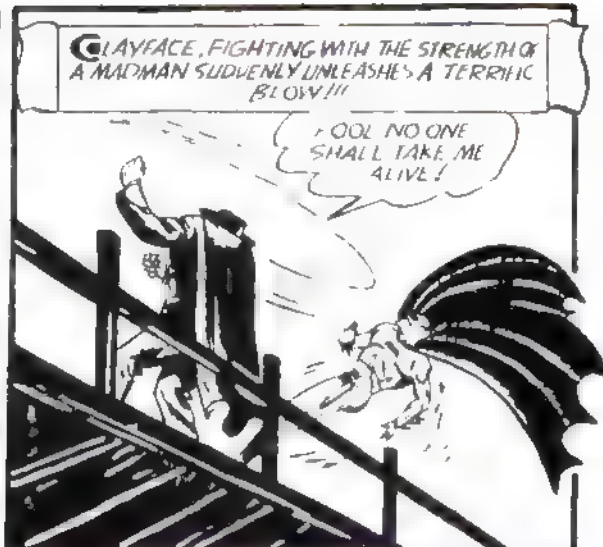
HEY!

BUT THE AGILE
ROBIN DUCKS AND
THE MURDEROUS
CLAYFACE GOES
HURLING OVER
HIS SHOULDER!











ROPE SUDDENLY HISSES THROUGH THE AIR AND JERKS CLAYFACE OFF HIS FEET.



THE BATMAN HAS WON THE LAST TRICK!

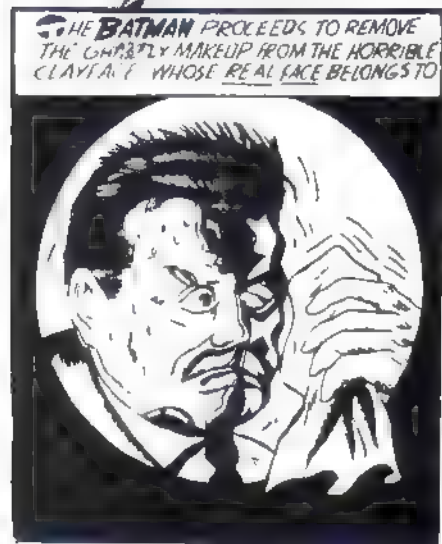
CLAYFACE, FROM NOW ON YOUR NAME IS MUD!



FEW MOMENTS LATER

NOW I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU THE MURDERER OF LORNA DANE AND FRED WALKER

THAT MAKE UP I ONCE SAW IT IN ONE OF MY PICTURES 'CLAYFACE' IT WAS PLAYED BY



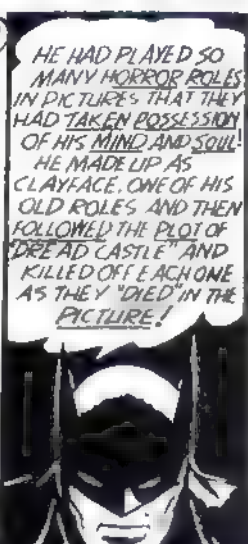
THE BATMAN PROCEEDS TO REMOVE THE GHAPELY MAKEUP FROM THE HORRIBLE CLAYFACE WHOSE REAL FACE BELONGS TO



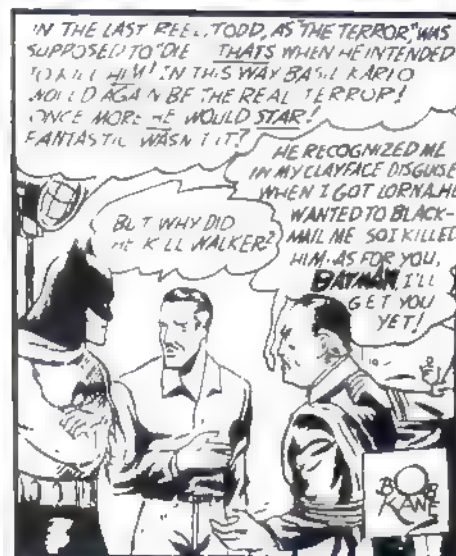
IT'S... BASIL KARLO !!

RIGHT! YOU SEE, HE HATED YOU FOR LIVING TODD IN A REMAKE OF ONE OF HIS OLD STARRING PICTURES! HE WANTED TO STOP THE PICTURE!

BUT WHY DID HE KILL LORNA DANE AND THEN TRY FOR ME? WHY DIDN'T HE KILL TODD FIRST?



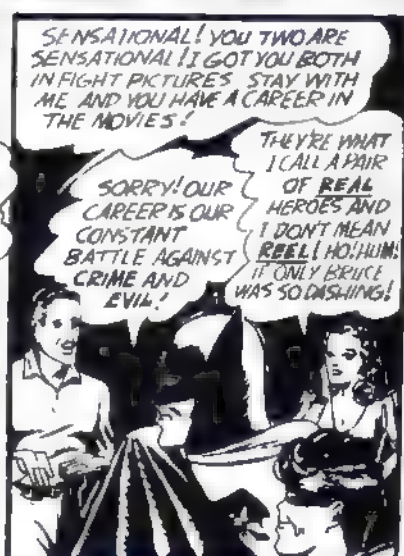
HE HAD PLAYED SO MANY HORROR ROLES IN PICTURES THAT THEY HAD TAKEN POSSESSION OF HIS MIND AND SOUL! HE MADE UP AS CLAYFACE, ONE OF HIS OLD ROLES AND THEN FOLLOWED THE PLOT OF 'DREAD CASTLE' AND KILLED OFF EACH ONE AS THEY 'DIED' IN THE PICTURE!



IN THE LAST REEL, TODD, AS THE TERROR WAS SUPPOSED TO DIE THATS WHEN HE INTENDED TO KILL HIM! IN THIS WAY BASIL KARLO WOULD AGAIN BE THE REAL TERROR! ONCE MORE HE WOULD STAR! FANTASTIC WASN'T IT?

HE RECOGNIZED ME IN MY CLAYFACE DISGUISE WHEN I GOT LORNA HE WANTED TO BLACKMAIL ME SO HE KILLED HIM. AS FOR YOU, BATMAN, I'LL GET YOU YET!

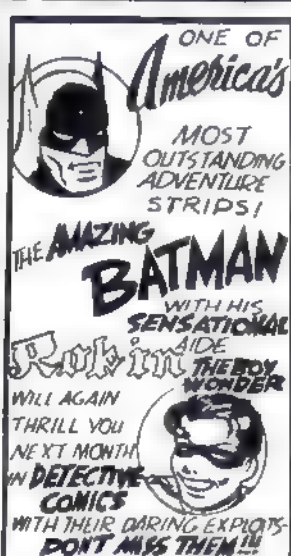
BUT WHY DID HE KILL WALKER?



SENSATIONAL! YOU TWO ARE SENSATIONAL! I GOT YOU BOTH IN FIGHT PICTURES STAY WITH ME AND YOU HAVE A CAREER IN THE MOVIES!

SORRY! OUR CAREER IS OUR CONSTANT BATTLE AGAINST CRIME AND EVIL!

THEY'RE WHAT I CALL A PAIR OF REAL HEROES AND I DON'T MEAN REEL! HO! HIM! IT ONLY BRUCE WAS SO DASHING!



ONE OF America's

MOST OUTSTANDING ADVENTURE STRIPS!

THE AMAZING BATMAN

WITH HIS SENSATIONAL AIDE THE BOY WONDER

WILL AGAIN THRILL YOU NEXT MONTH IN DETECTIVE COMICS WITH THEIR DARING EXPLOITS. DON'T MISS THEM!

BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

THE BOY WONDER -

CALLING ALL MYSTERY FANS!

WE DEFY YOU TO SOLVE
THESE THREE SINISTER
RIDDLES!

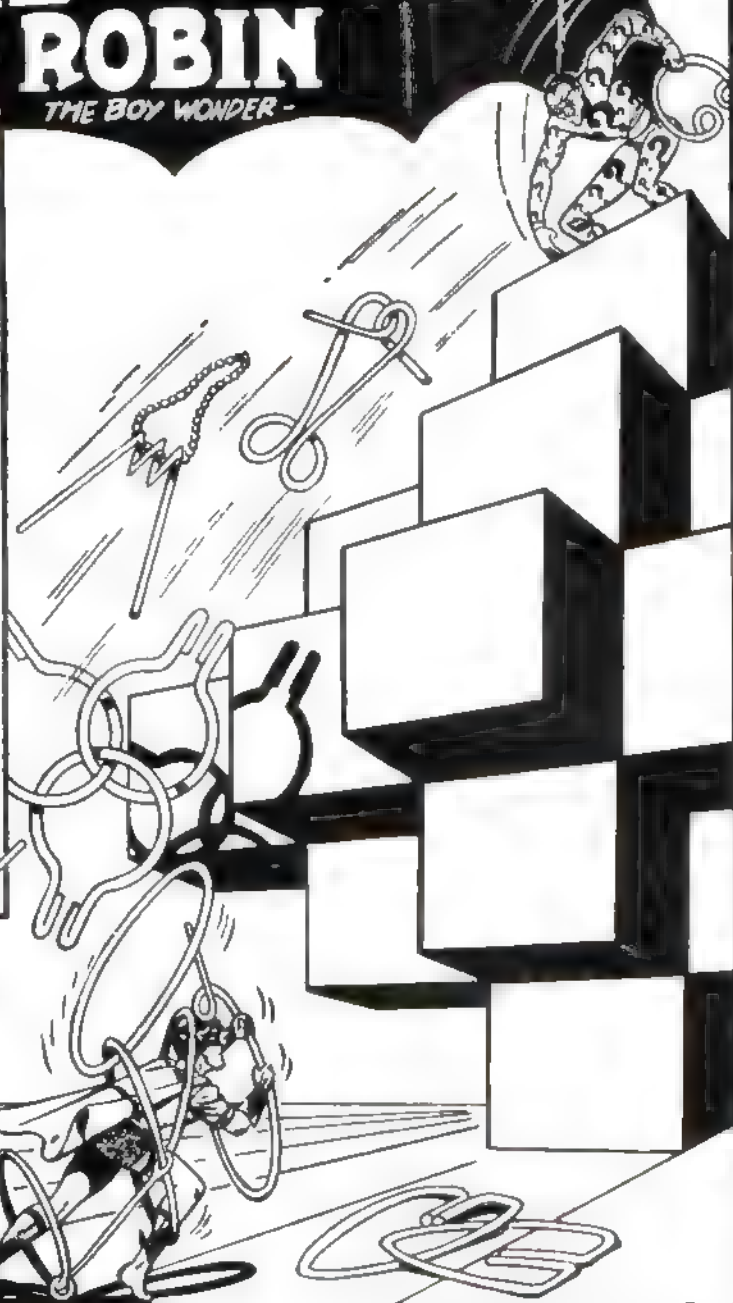
WHO IS THE LATEST
CRIMINAL TO CHALLENGE
BATMAN AND ROBIN
TO A DEADLY GAME
OF WITS?

WHO IS THE VILLAIN
TO USE RIDDLES, JIG-
SAWS, ACROSTICS AND
ALL TYPES OF PUZZLES
TO PERPLEX THE
DYNAMIC DUO?

WHO PLACES **BATMAN**
AND **ROBIN** IN A MAZE
OF DOOM WHERE ONLY
COURAGE AND INGENUITY
CAN FATHOM FREEDOM?

THERE IS BUT ONE
ANSWER TO ALL THREE
RIDDLES, AND HIS NAME
IS...

"The Riddler"



THE CAREER OF THE RIDDLER
BEGAN YEARS AGO, WITH A SCHOOL
HISTORY CONTEST!

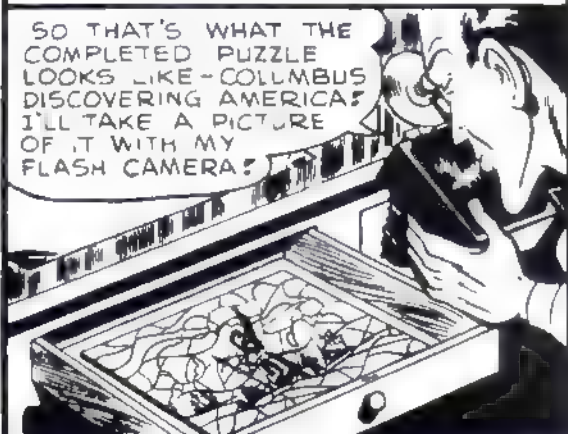
TOMORROW, EACH OF
YOU WILL RECEIVE A
DISASSEMBLED JIGSAW
PUZZLE. THE FIRST
TO PUT IT TOGETHER
WINS A PRIZE!

I OUGHT
TO WIN
SURE!
AFTER ALL,
MY NAME'S
EDWARD
NIGMA—
E. NIGMA!



BUT AFTER SCHOOL HOURS, THE
BOY SECRETLY, JIMMED OPEN HIS
TEACHER'S DESK...

SO THAT'S WHAT THE
COMPLETED PUZZLE
LOOKS LIKE—COLUMBUS
DISCOVERING AMERICA!
I'LL TAKE A PICTURE
OF IT WITH MY
FLASH CAMERA!



AND NEXT DAY..

EDWARD NIGMA WAS
THE FIRST TO SOLVE
THE JIGSAW! HE WINS
THE PRIZE!

PUZZLES ARE
OKAY? I'M
GOING TO
LEARN HOW
TO SOLVE
ALL KINDS!



E. NIGMA SOON BECAME KNOWN AS
A PUZZLE EXPERT AMONG HIS
FRIENDS—WHO DIDN'T KNOW THAT
HE CHEATED.

I KNEW YOU COULDN'T
SOLVE THAT BENT-NAIL
PUZZLE IN FIVE MINUTES!

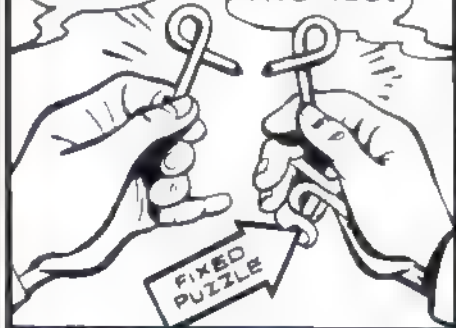
LET'S
SEE
YOU DO
IT!



PALMING THE PUZZLE WHICH
HE'D PREVIOUSLY FIXED SO IT
WAS **IMPOSSIBLE** TO OPEN,
E. NIGMA SUBSTITUTED A
REGULAR PUZZLE FOR IT, AND

SEE...
OPEN!

WOW! YOUR
NAME SURE
FITS YOU!

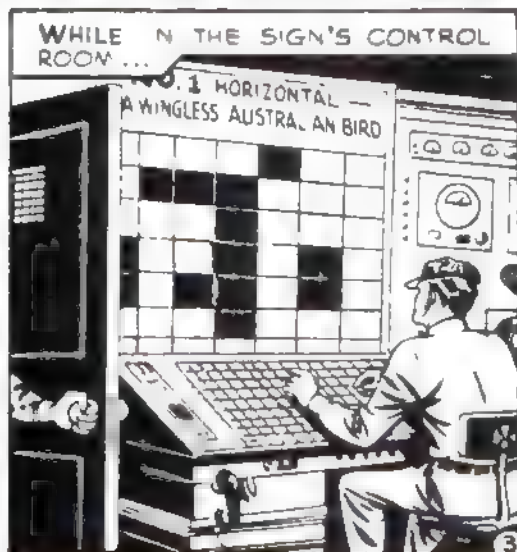
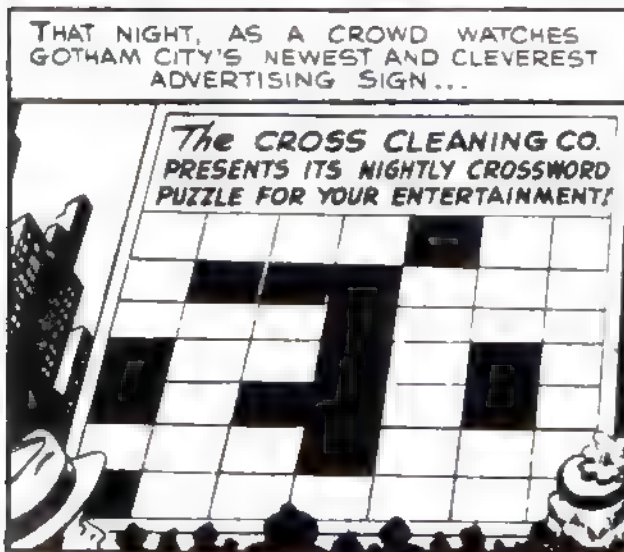
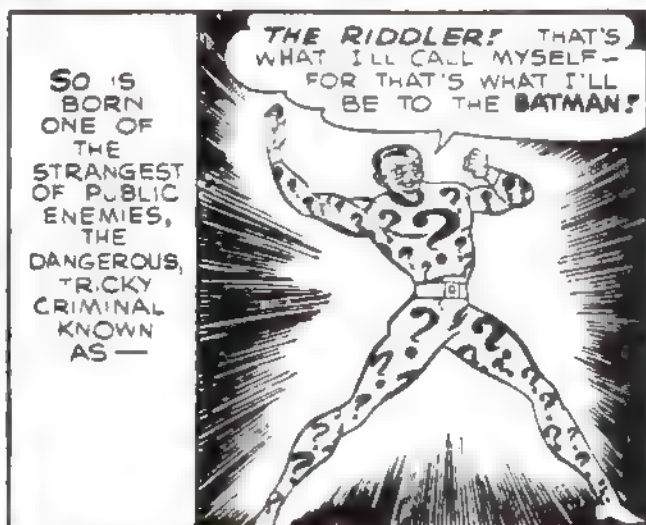
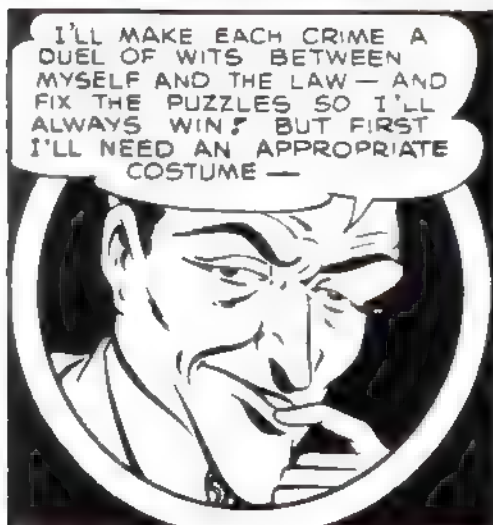
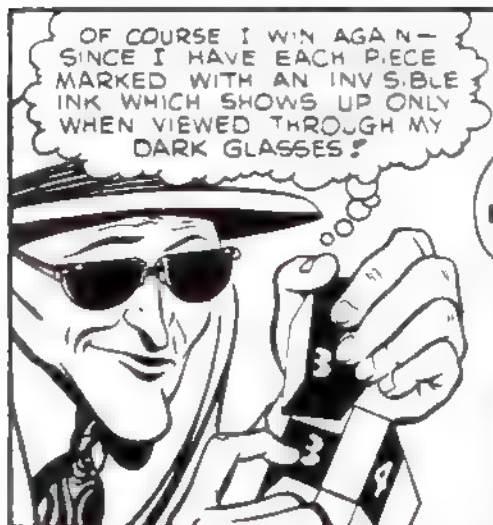


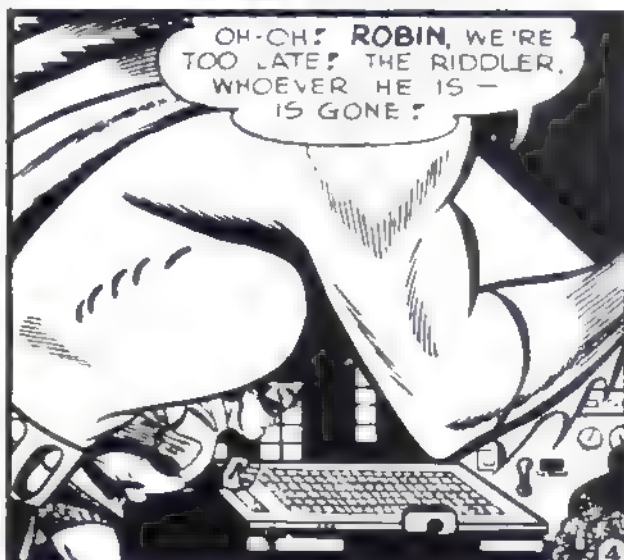
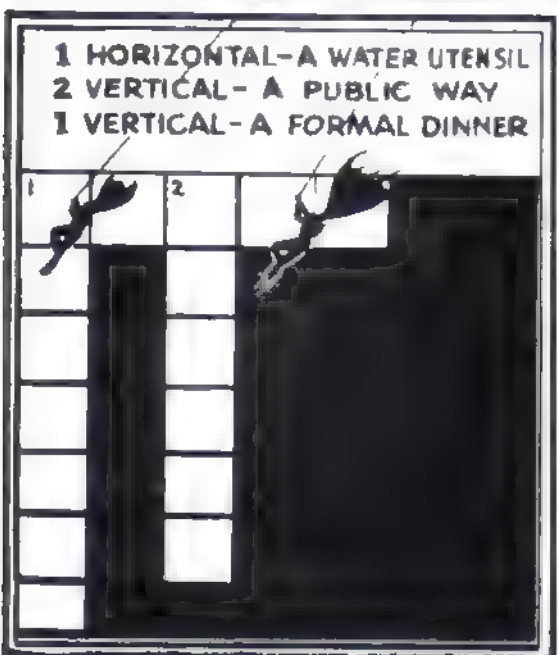
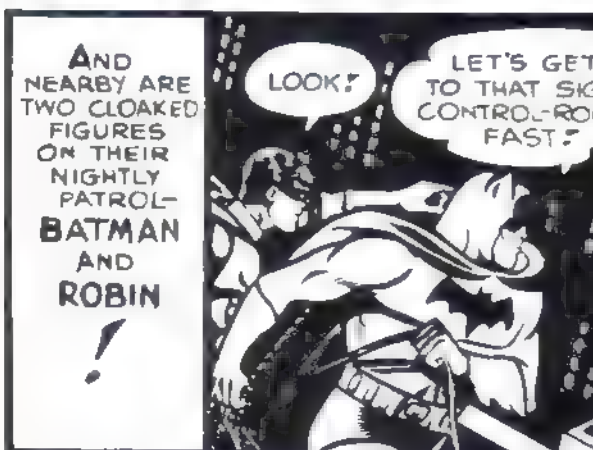
THE BOY WHO CHEATED ON PUZZLES GREW
TO BE A PUZZLE EXPERT... AND STILL
CHEATED!

SOLVE THAT
CHINESE PUZZLE
AND I PAY YOU!
IF YOU DON'T
AND I DO...
THEN YOU PAY
ME!

WHEN WITS WITH
E. NIGMA
THE PUZZLE KING







MINUTES LATER .

WE'LL
ACCEPT HIS
CHALLENGE!
LET'S SEE A
FIVE-LETTER
WORD FOR
"A WATER
UTENSIL".
THAT WOULD
BE **BASIN**!

THEN THE SIX-
LETTER WORD FOR
"A PUBLIC WAY",
BEGINNING WITH
S, MUST BE
STREET!

BUT WHAT'S A
SEVEN-LETTER
WORD FOR "A
FORMAL DINNER,
STARTING
WITH **B**?

BANQUET! PUT
TOGETHER, IT WOULD
READ **BASIN STREET
BANQUET**! THAT'S IT...
THAT'S THE RIDDLER'S
CRIME CLUE!



THE **BG CIVC**
CHARITY BANQUET
IS BEING HELD IN
A **BASIN STREET**
HOTEL TONIGHT!
LET'S GO!

I'LL BET
THE RIDDLER
DIDN'T THINK
WE'D SOLVE
HIS PUZZLE
SO
QUICKLY!

SOON AFTER, AT THE BANQUET .

AND AS MAYOR OF GOTHAM CITY, I WILL-
EH? **BATMAN**? WHAT ?

THE RIDDLER ...
HAS HE BEEN
HERE YET ?



THE
RIDDLER?
WHO'S
HE?

MAYOR, A
WATER MAIN
HAS BURST!
IT'S FLOODED
THE BANK
NEARBY!



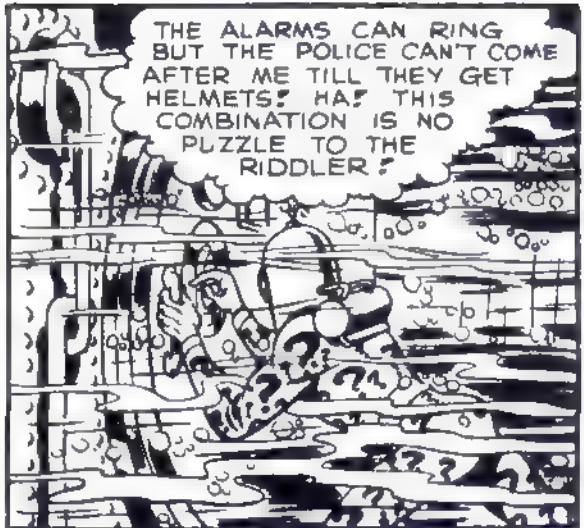
A BANK FLOODED ?
A **BANK-WET**!
THAT'S WHAT THE
RIDDLER REALLY
MEANT! HE
TRICKED US
NEATLY!

BUT THE
BANK'S ONLY
A FEW DOORS
AWAY! WE CAN
STILL STOP
HIM!

BUT AT THE BANK...

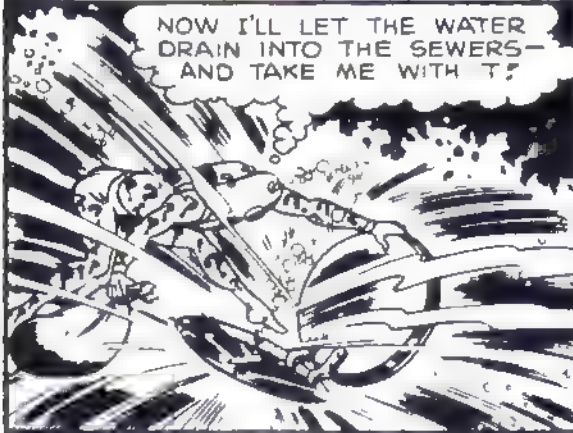
A WATER MAIN WAS CUT TO FLOOD THE BANK'S UNDERGROUND VAULTS! BUT THERE'S SOMEONE DOWN IN THE VAULTS NOW, WEARING A DIVER'S HELMET!

SO THAT'S THE RIDDLER'S SCHEME? GUARD EVERY EXIT! WHEN HE COMES UP—**GRAB HIM!**



THE RIDDLER HAS ALSO FIGURED OUT HIS ESCAPE FROM A SEEMINGLY PUZZLING TRAP...

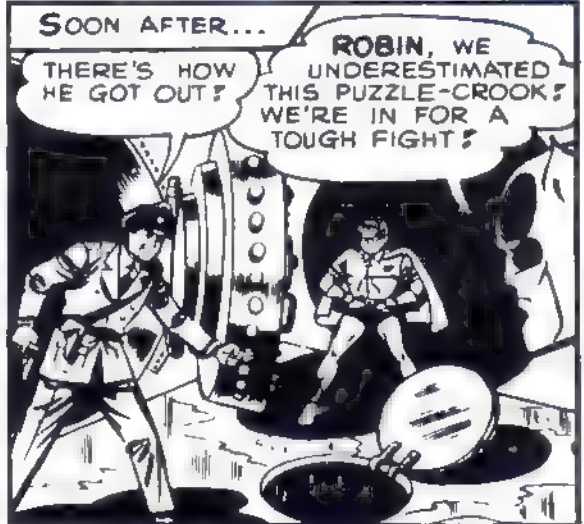
NOW I'LL LET THE WATER DRAIN INTO THE SEWERS—AND TAKE ME WITH IT!



SOON AFTER...

THERE'S HOW HE GOT OUT?

ROBIN, WE UNDERESTIMATED THIS PUZZLE-CROOK! WE'RE IN FOR A TOUGH FIGHT!



LATER...THE LAIR OF THE RIDDLER!

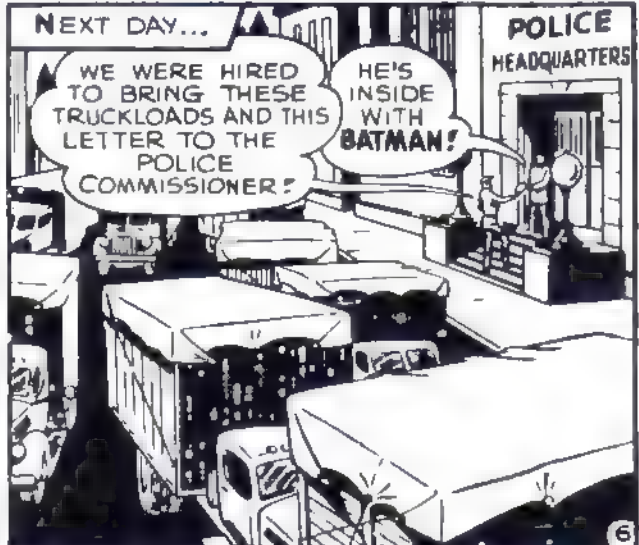
HA! HA! BY THE TIME I'M FINISHED, THE RIDDLER WILL HAVE **BATMAN** BAFFLED!

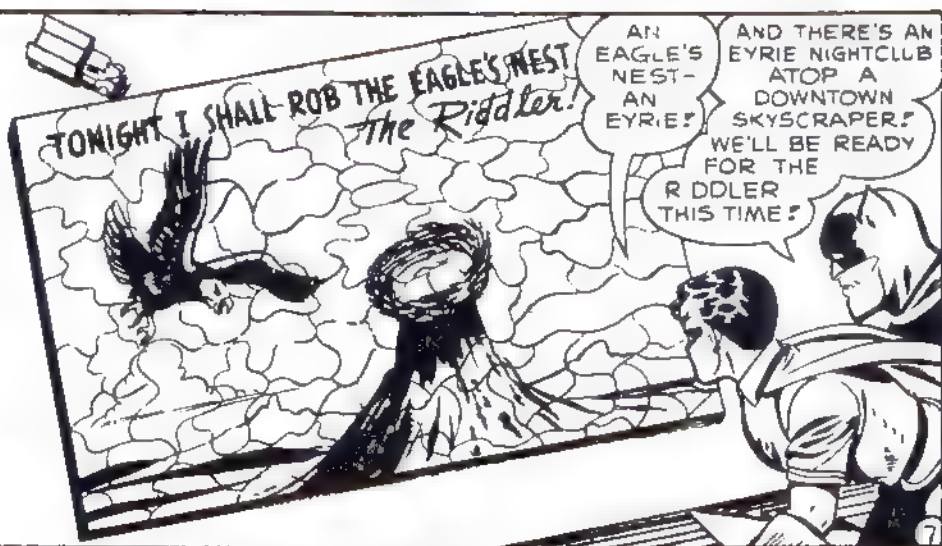
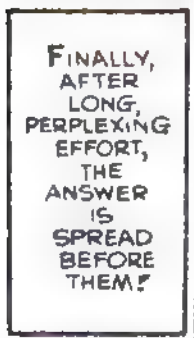
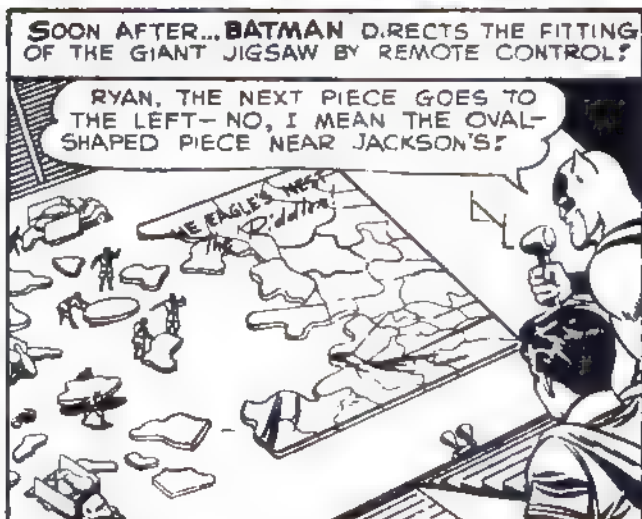
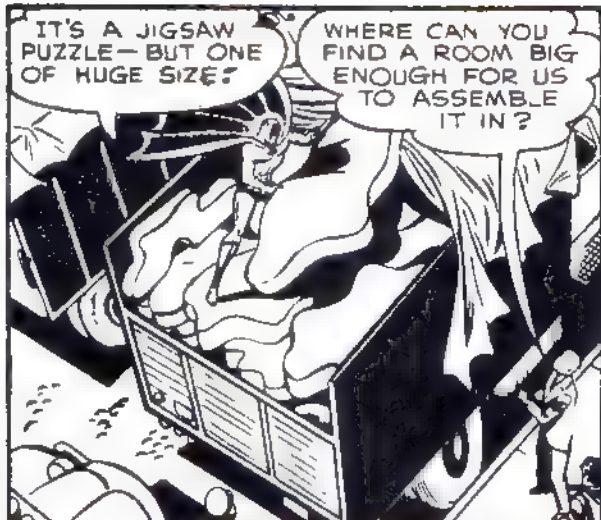
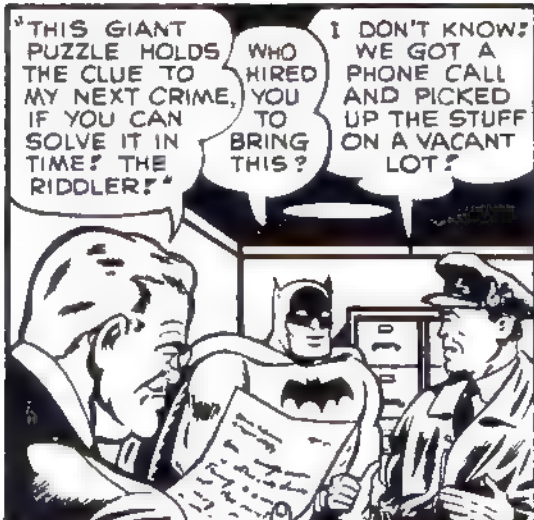


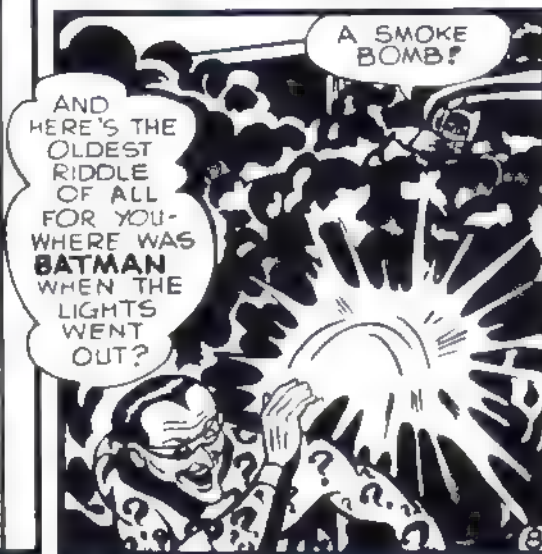
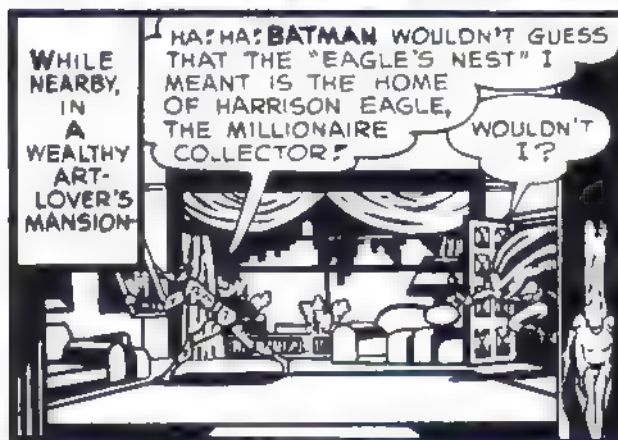
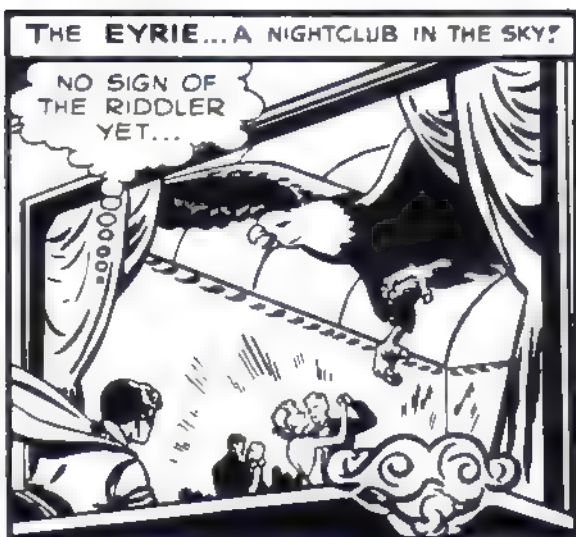
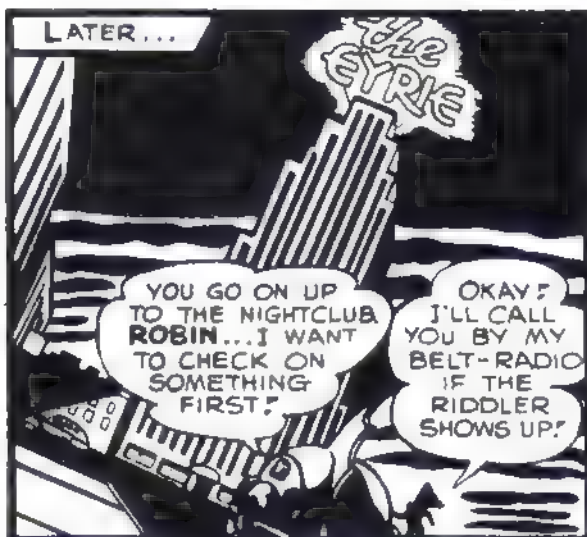
NEXT DAY...

WE WERE HIRED TO BRING THESE TRUCKLOADS AND THIS LETTER TO THE POLICE COMMISSIONER!

HE'S INSIDE WITH **BATMAN!**







BY THE TIME THE
DENSE SMOKE CLEARS...

THE RIDDLER WILL GET
AWAY— AND I CAN'T FOLLOW
HIM, KNOWING EAGLE WILL
SUFFOCATE INSIDE THAT
PUZZLE!



NOW **BATMAN** MATCHES HIS WITS AGAINST
A HIGHLY COMPLEX PUZZLE, WITH A
LIFE AT STAKE IF HE FAILS!

I'LL NEVER FIND THE SECRET
OF THIS PUZZLE
IN TIME TO
SAVE HIM!



WAIT!
THE LITTLE
NICKS ON SOME OF
THESE STEEL RODS
WERE OBVIOUSLY MADE
WHEN THE RODS
SCRAPED AGAINST
EACH OTHER!



BY CAREFULLY FOLLOWING THE TINY NICKS
SHOWING HOW THE RODS WERE FITTED
TOGETHER, **BATMAN** UNDOES THE PUZZLE!

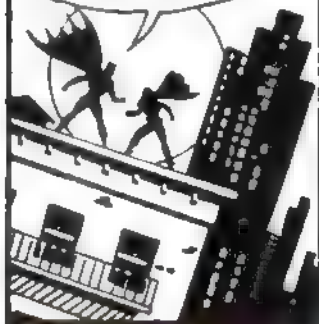
JUST IN
TIME, TOO!

UHHH!



AFTERWARDS...
IT IS A GRIM
BATMAN WHO
REJOINS **ROBIN**!

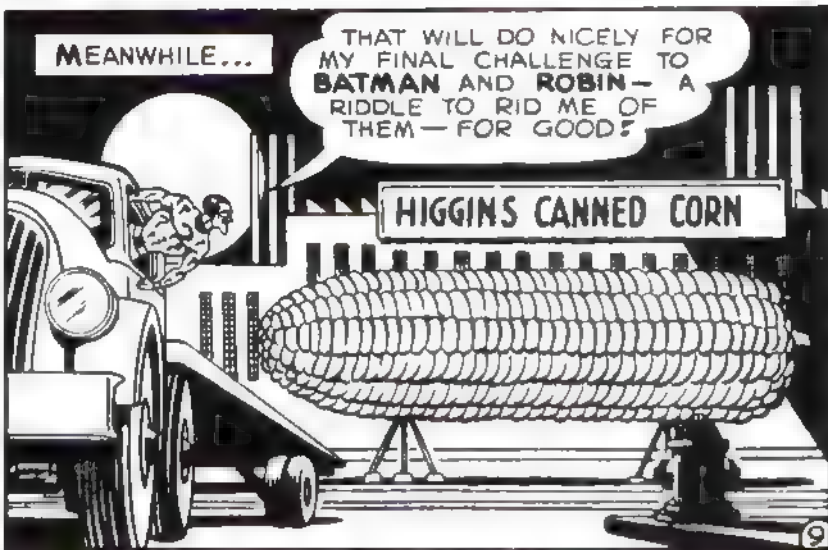
THE RIDDLER'S
STAGING A CRIME-
CHARADE IN THIS
TOWN THAT WE'VE
GOT TO STOP!
THAT MAN'S
DANGEROUS!

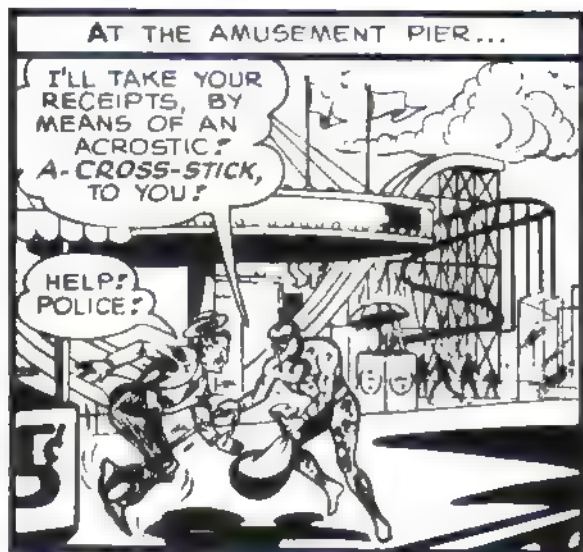
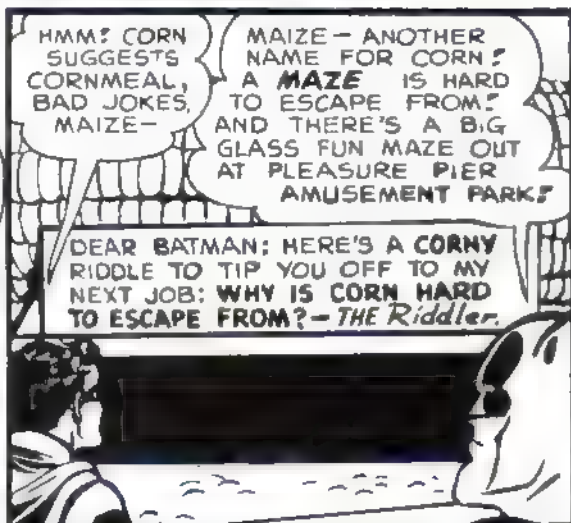


MEANWHILE...

THAT WILL DO NICELY FOR
MY FINAL CHALLENGE TO
BATMAN AND **ROBIN**— A
RIDDLE TO RID ME OF
THEM— FOR GOOD!

HIGGINS CANNED CORN





IN THE DEPTHS OF THE GLASS
LABYRINTH, THE WIZARD OF QUIZ
ELUDES THE GROPING DUO?

OUCH,
I RAN INTO
ANOTHER PANE!

PANES—AND PAINS—
ARE ALL YOU'LL GET
FOR YOUR TROUBLE!

NOW TO SLIP
BACK OUT BY THE
SECRET TRAIL I
MARKED!

ONCE OUTSIDE THE MAZE, THE RIDDLER
SEALS THE TRAP HE HAS PREPARED?

NOW THERE'S NO WAY OUT OF
THE MAZE, BUT THEY DON'T
KNOW THAT! OF COURSE, IT'S
UNFAIR... BUT THAT'S WHY I
ALWAYS WIN!

I'VE HIDDEN A BOMB IN
THE MAZE! IT WILL BLOW
UP THE WHOLE MAZE IN A HALF
HOUR, AND YOU WITH IT— UNLESS
YOU CAN FIND YOUR
WAY OUT!

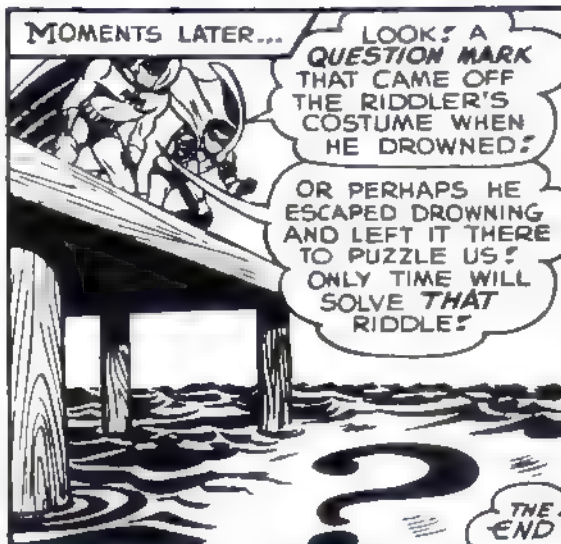
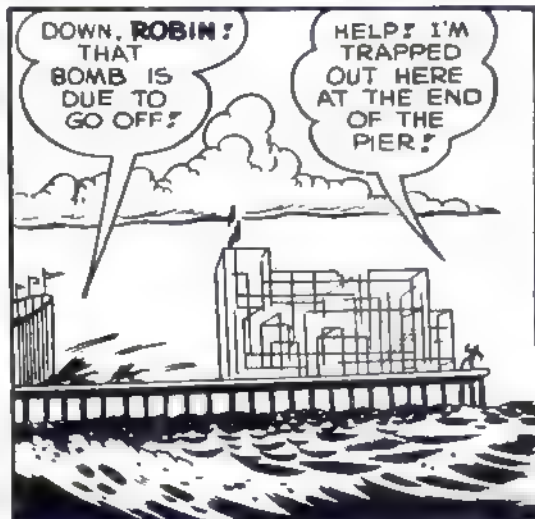
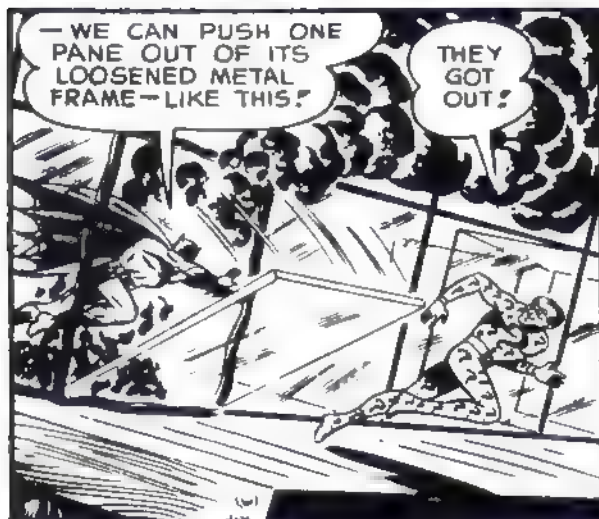
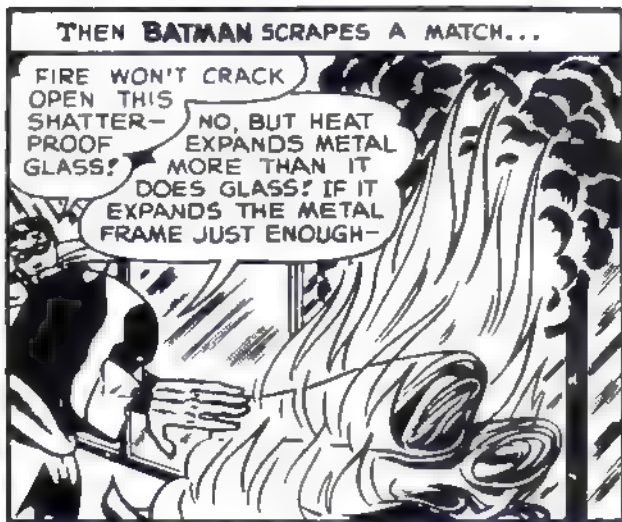
THIS IS SHATTER-
PROOF GLASS! WE
CAN'T BREAK
THROUGH! WE'LL
HAVE TO FIND
THE ENTRANCE
WE CAME IN
BEFORE!

I'LL SCRATCH THE
GLASS PANELS
WITH THE DIAMONDS
ON MY BADGE!
THE "BLAZED" TRAIL
IS TO MAKE SURE WE
DON'T WANDER IN
A CIRCLE!

TENSE MINUTES PASS IN A HOPELESS
SEARCH FOR AN EXIT THAT NO
LONGER EXISTS!

I'M POSITIVE THIS WAS
THE ENTRANCE, BUT IT'S
BEEN CLOSED UP BY
THE RIDDLER!
THERE'S NO
WAY OUT!

AND
HE'S
WAITING
TO SEE THAT
BOMB
DESTROY
US!



WE DARE YOU TO ACCEPT
THIS CHALLENGE!
CAN YOU GUESS THE SECRET
IDENTITY OF THE CRIMINAL
WHO BAFLED GOTHAM CITY
FOR ONE DECADE? BATMAN
AND ROBIN WILL PROVIDE YOU
WITH ALL THE CLUES. SEE IF
YOU CAN INTERPRET THEM
SKILLFULLY ENOUGH TO IDENTIFY...

BATMAN

ROBIN

"THE
MAN
BEHIND THE
RED
HOOD!"



NIGHTTIME IN GOTHAM CITY--AND TWO MANTLED FIGURES PLUMMET TOWARD THE ROOF OF POLICE HEADQUARTERS IN ANSWER TO THE **BAT-SIGNAL!**

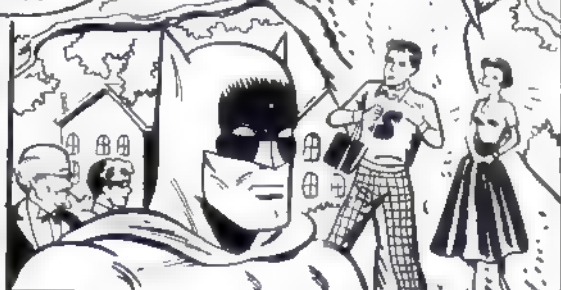
NEXT MORNING, AS **BATMAN'S** TALL FIGURE STRIDES ACROSS THE COLLEGE CAMPUS...

BATMAN AND ROBIN, I WANT YOU TO MEET DEAN CHALMERS OF STATE UNIVERSITY! HE HAS A FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU!

YES, GENTLEMEN... THIS TERM, THE UNIVERSITY IS STARTING A COURSE IN **CRIMINOLOGY**, AND WE'D BE HONORED TO HAVE **YOU, BATMAN AS GUEST INSTRUCTOR!**

BOY, LOOK AT THOSE SHOULDERS ON **BATMAN!** WHAT A FULLBACK HE'D MAKE!

(SIGH) GOLLY, I'M SORRY I DIDN'T SIGN UP FOR THAT COURSE! (SIGH) ISN'T HE DIVINE?



TO UNDERSTAND HIS CLASS BETTER, **BATMAN** STARTS BY INTERVIEWING EACH STUDENT PRIVATELY!...

MY FAMILY LIVES IN HAWAII! SOMEDAY I HOPE TO BE A **MEDICAL EXAMINER** ON THE HAWAII POLICE DEPARTMENT!

PAUL WONG, WHY DID YOU PICK THIS COURSE?



YES, EACH STUDENT HAS HIS REASON, LIKE JIMMY KALE, FOR EXAMPLE...

MY FATHER WAS **CHIPS KALE, THE GANGSTER!** I SWORE I'D MAKE IT UP TO SOCIETY BY TAKING THE PLACE OF THE FBI MAN HE ONCE KILLED! IT'S A DEBT I MUST PAY OFF!



THAT AFTERNOON, **PROFESSOR BATMAN** BEGINS ACTUAL INSTRUCTION...

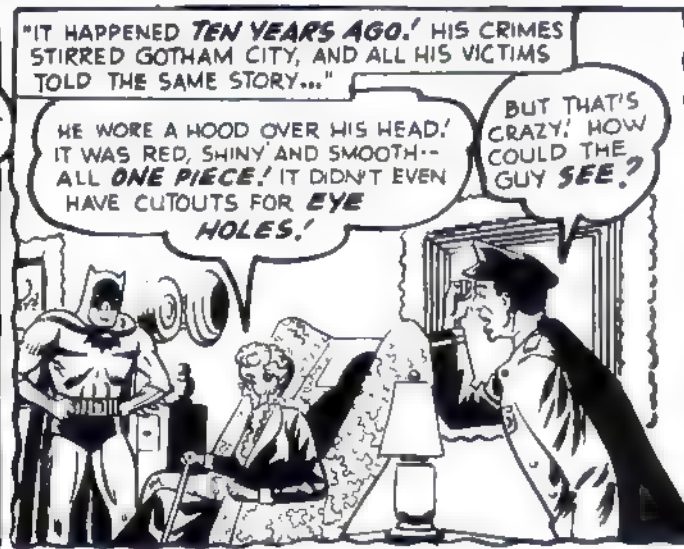
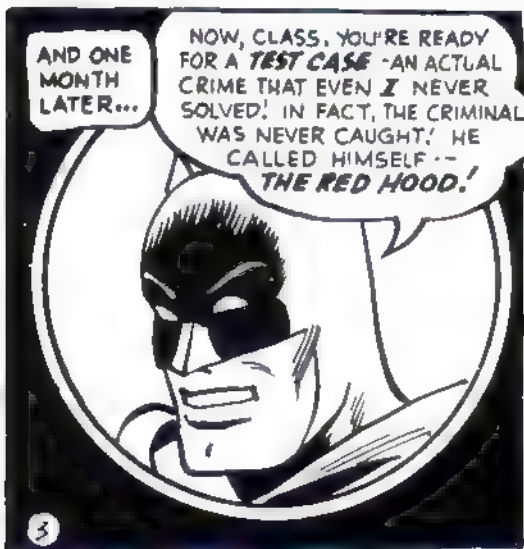
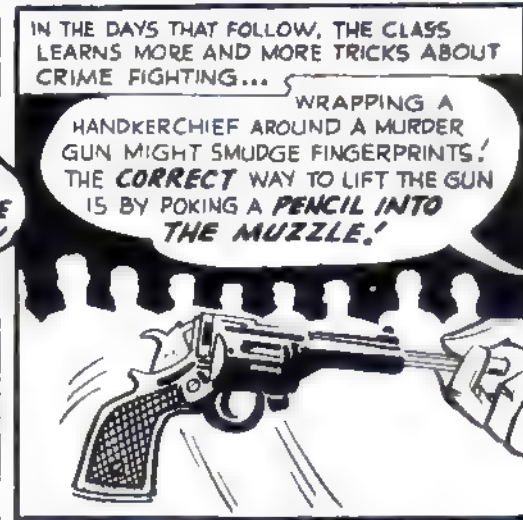
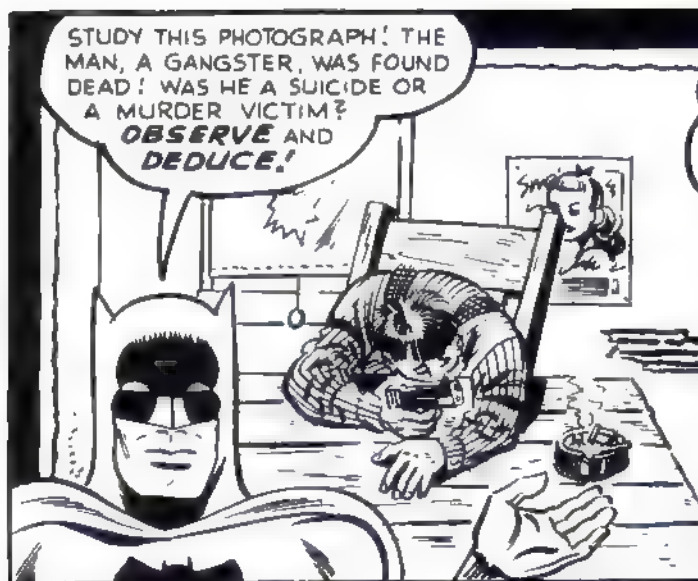
THE **MOST IMPORTANT** ASPECT OF CRIME-FIGHTING, CLASS, IS **OBSERVATION** AND **DEDUCTION!** NOW, IF THIS FOOTPRINT WERE FOUND AT THE SCENE OF A CRIME, WHAT WOULD YOU **OBSERVE** AND **DEDUCE?**



OBSERVATION: THE HEEL PRINT IS **UNCOMMONLY DEEP** WHEREAS THE SOLE PRINT IS **VERY LIGHT!** **DEDUCTION:** THE CRIMINAL TRIED TO FOOL THE POLICE BY WALKING AWAY **BACKWARD!**

RIGHT, JIMMY!





"AT FIRST, I DOUBTED THE STORIES! THAT IS, UNTIL ONE NIGHT WHEN I SPOTTED A FIGURE SNEAKING INTO AN ICE PLANT..."

THE RED HOOD! THEN THE STORIES ARE TRUE--YOUR HOOD IS BLANK FACED!

YES, **BATMAN**, BUT I CAN SEE JUST THE SAME! WHO KNOWS? PERHAPS I CAN SEE THROUGH METAL BECAUSE I HAVE **X-RAY EYES!**

YOU SEE, CRIMINALS CAN BE IDENTIFIED BY THEIR EARS, THE COLOR OF THEIR EYES, THE SHAPE OF A CHIN! BUT NO ONE WILL EVER IDENTIFY ME--BECAUSE MY HOOD COVERS MY FEATURES **COMPLETELY!**

SO THAT'S THE REASON FOR IT!

"SUDDENLY, I LEAPED AT HIM--HIS GUN FLAMED--**BUT NOT AT ME!** INSTEAD, STEEL-JACKETED SLUGS RIPPED INTO THE PIPES OF CHOKING **AMMONIA GAS!**

COUGH; ...
CAN'T...BREATHE...
COUGH!

"I SWERVED TO THE OPEN WINDOW, SUCKING FRESH AIR INTO MY STRAINING LUNGS--AND WHEN I TURNED BACK..."

THE RED HOOD...HE'S GONE--ESCAPED! BUT HOW COULD HE, SO QUICKLY? HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN WEAKENED BY THE GAS, AS I WAS!

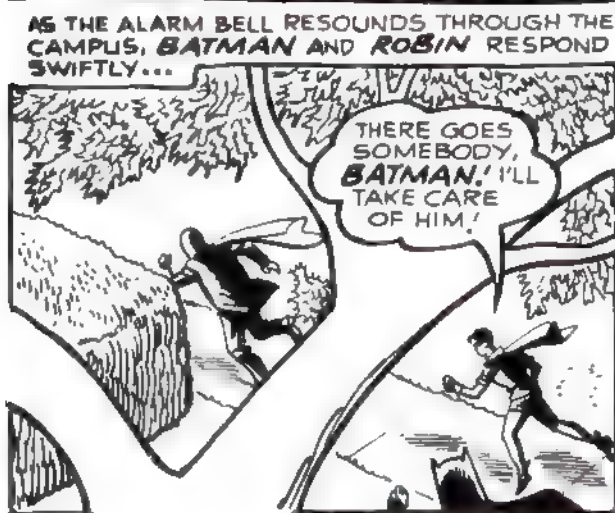
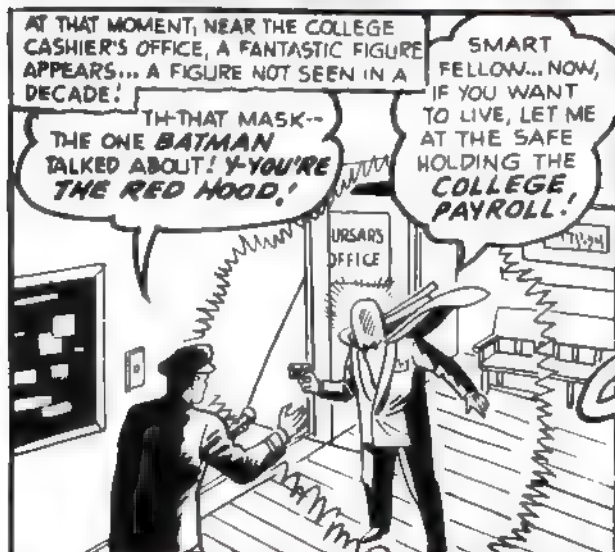
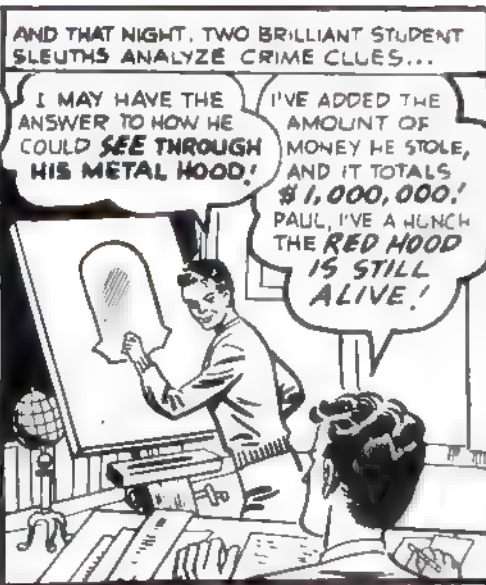
"FOR ONE MONTH MORE, THE **RED HOOD** ROBBED AND ESCAPED--UNTIL ONE NIGHT, WE CORNERED HIM FLEEING FROM ANOTHER CRIME..."

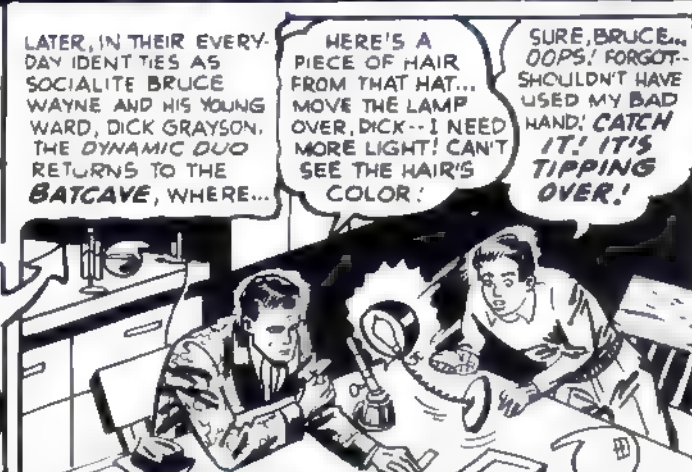
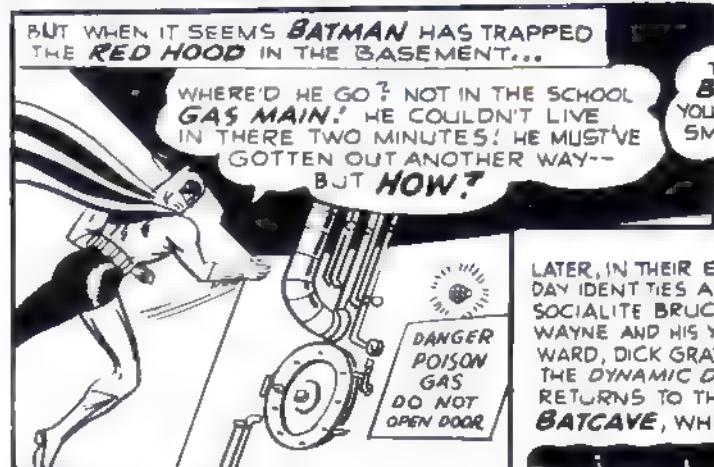
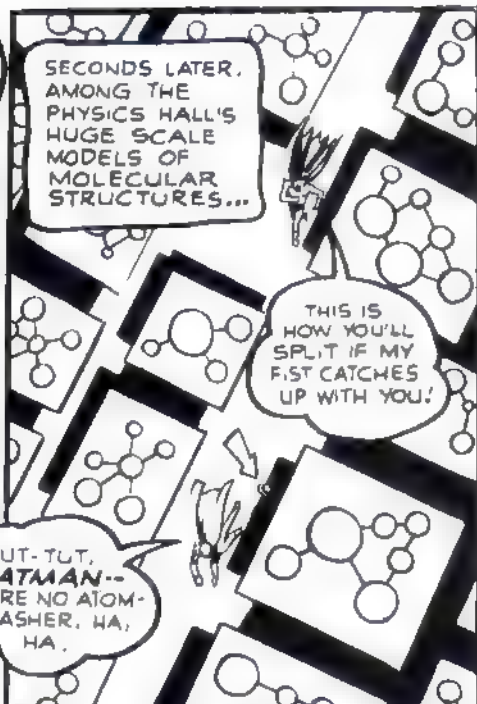
GREAT SCOTT! HE'S DIVING INTO THE CATCH BASIN FOR ALL THE WASTE CHEMICALS FROM YOUR PLANT!

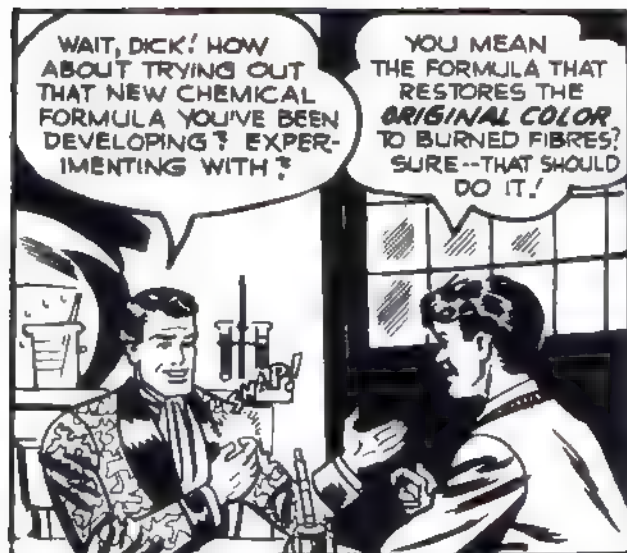
WELL, WE NEVER RECOVERED HIS BODY... AND TO THIS DAY, WE DON'T KNOW WHETHER THE **RED HOOD** DIED, OR SUDDENLY DECIDED TO RETIRE! PERHAPS **YOU** HAVE THE ANSWERS, CLASS!

THE LIQUID EMPTIES OUT INTO THE RIVER, BUT HE'LL NEVER MAKE IT! THAT **DEADLY CHEMICAL MIXTURE** WILL FINISH HIM FIRST!

AND PERHAPS **YOU, TOO**, HAVE THE ANSWERS, READER! FOLLOW THE REST OF THE STORY CLOSELY, AND SEE WHAT YOU CAN MAKE OF THE CLUES WHICH TURN UP:

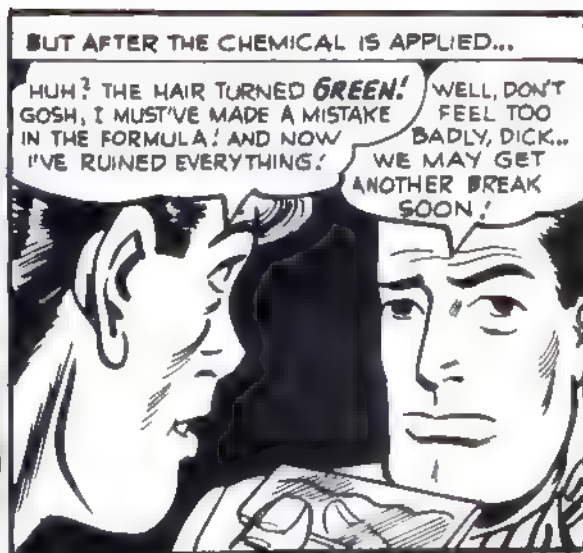






WAIT, DICK! HOW ABOUT TRYING OUT THAT NEW CHEMICAL FORMULA YOU'VE BEEN DEVELOPING? EXPERIMENTING WITH?

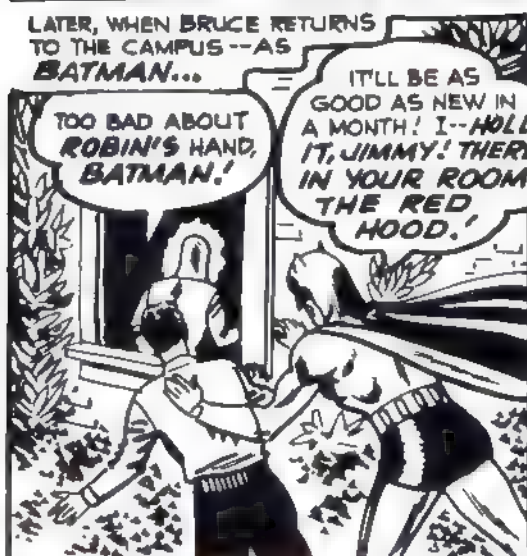
YOU MEAN THE FORMULA THAT RESTORES THE **ORIGINAL COLOR** TO BURNED FIBRES? SURE--THAT SHOULD DO IT!



BUT AFTER THE CHEMICAL IS APPLIED...

HUH? THE HAIR TURNED **GREEN!** GOSH, I MUST'VE MADE A MISTAKE IN THE FORMULA! AND NOW I'VE RUINED EVERYTHING!

WELL, DON'T FEEL TOO BADLY, DICK... WE MAY GET ANOTHER BREAK SOON!



LATER, WHEN BRUCE RETURNS TO THE CAMPUS--AS **BATMAN**...

TOO BAD ABOUT **ROBIN'S HAND, BATMAN!**

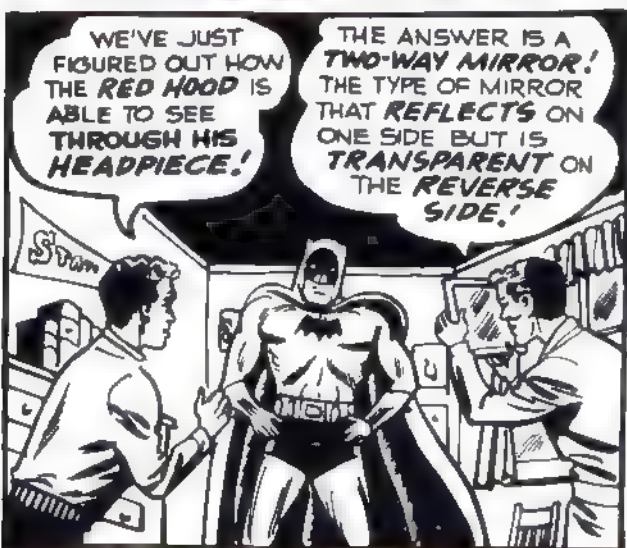
IT'LL BE AS GOOD AS NEW IN A MONTH! I--**HOLD IT, JIMMY! THERE--IN YOUR ROOM--THE RED HOOD!**



BUT AS HE LUNGES AT THE FIGURE...

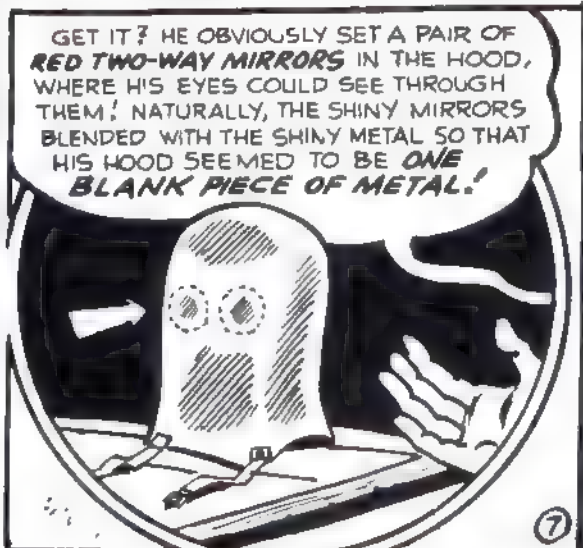
WHY, IT'S **PAUL WONG!**

SURE... HA, HA! HE'S **NOT THE RED HOOD!** HE WAS ONLY WEARING A **REPLICA!** WE FINISHED IT TODAY!

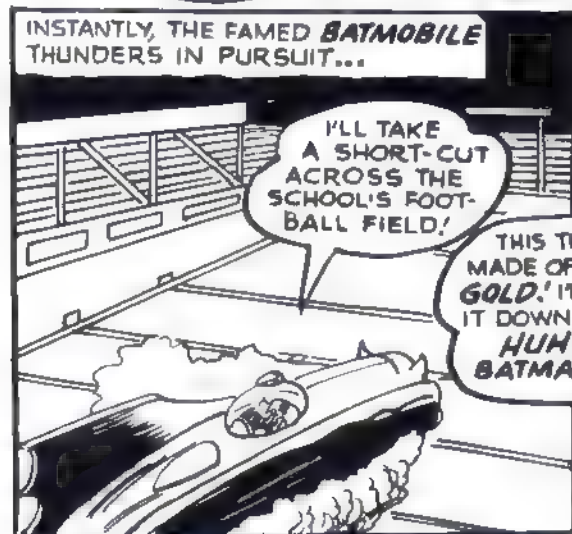
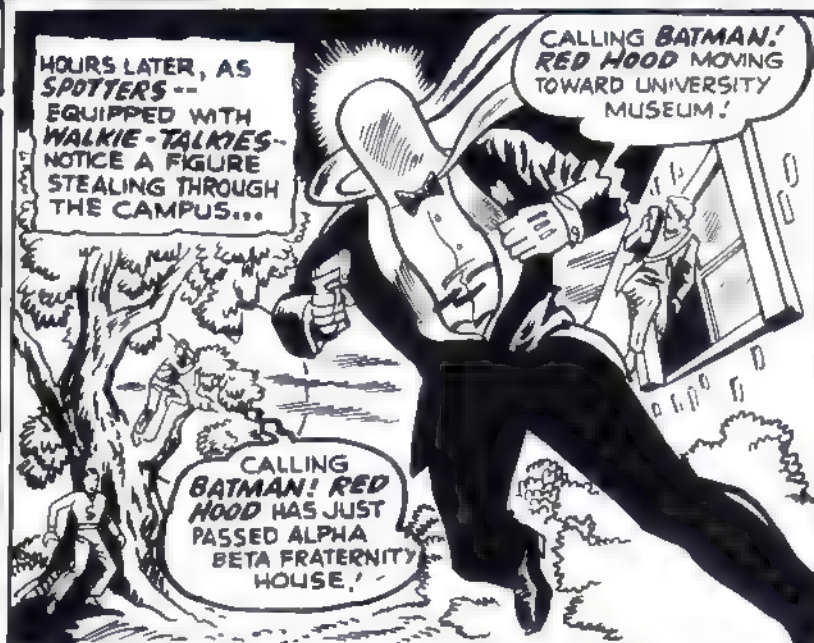
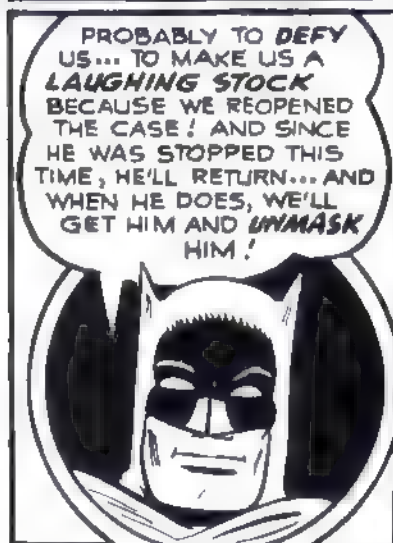
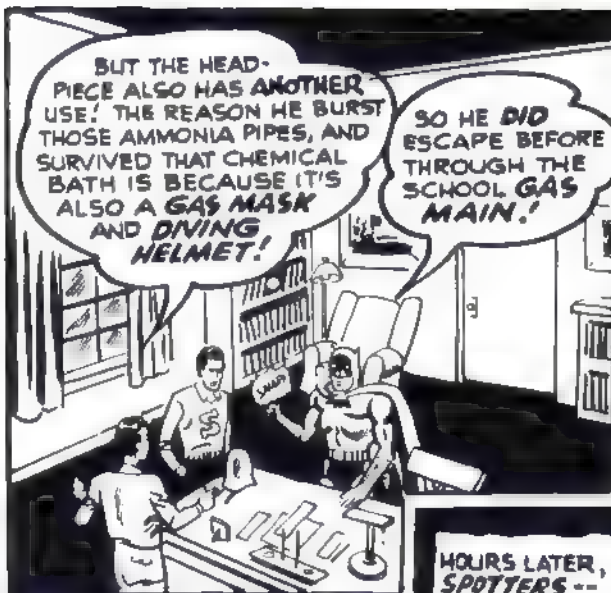


WE'VE JUST FIGURED OUT HOW THE **RED HOOD** IS ABLE TO SEE THROUGH HIS **HEADPIECE!**

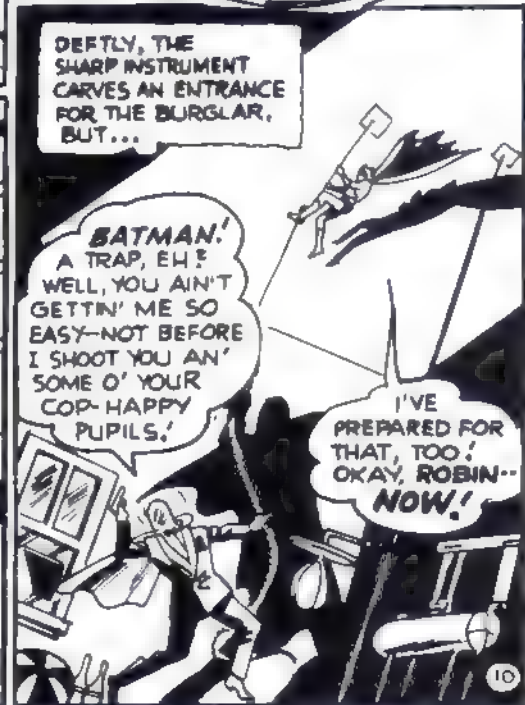
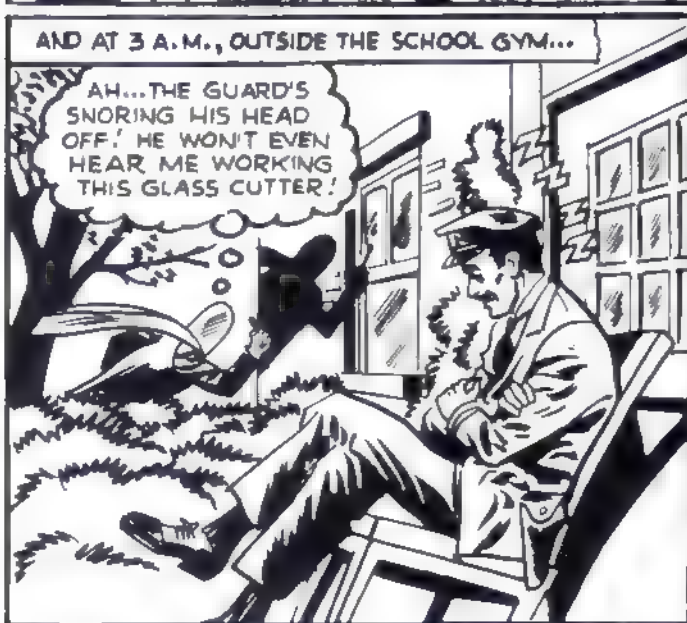
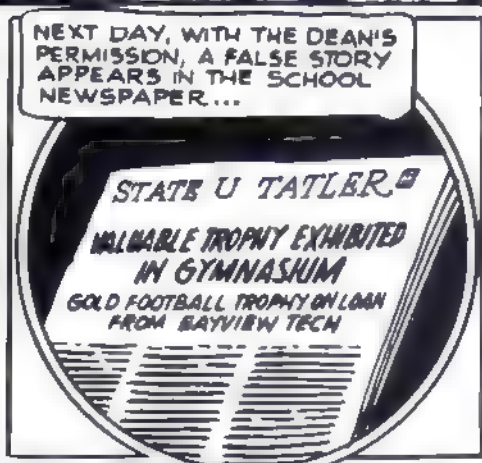
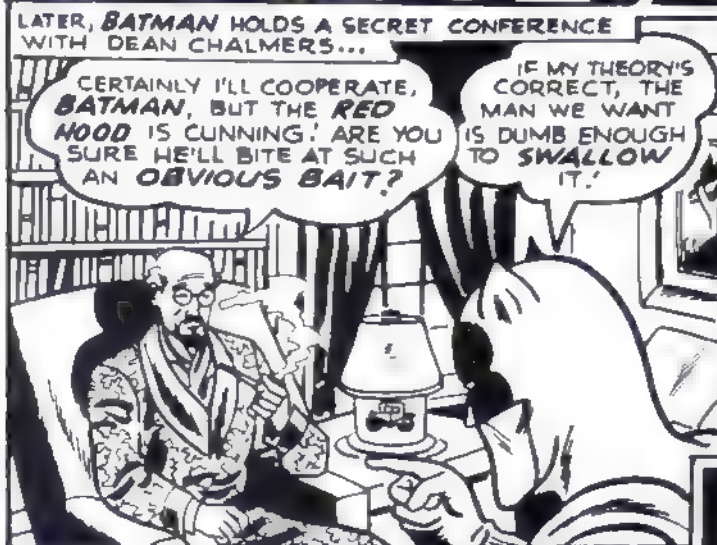
THE ANSWER IS A **TWO-WAY MIRROR!** THE TYPE OF MIRROR THAT **REFLECTS** ON ONE SIDE BUT IS **TRANSPARENT** ON THE **REVERSE SIDE!**

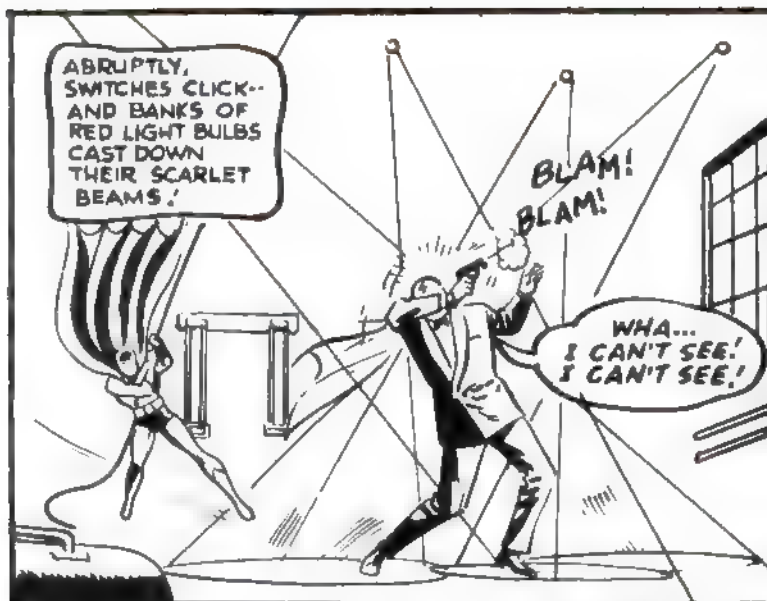


GET IT? HE OBVIOUSLY SET A PAIR OF **RED TWO-WAY MIRRORS** IN THE HOOD, WHERE HIS EYES COULD SEE THROUGH THEM! NATURALLY, THE SHINY MIRRORS BLENDED WITH THE SHINY METAL SO THAT HIS HOOD SEEMED TO BE **ONE BLANK PIECE OF METAL!**









AND AS WHITE LIGHT FLASHES ON, ITS MERCILESS GLARE REVEALS THE FACE OF THE BATMAN'S CAPTIVE!



BUT... BUT...
WAS THE **REAL**
RED HOOD EVER
ON THE CAMPUS
AT ALL?

YES--IT WAS THE
REAL RED HOOD
WHO TRIED TO ROB
THE SCHOOL PAYROLL!
HE ESCAPED BY THE
SCHOOL GAS MAIN...
REMEMBER? THAT'S
WHEN BENSON TOOK
OVER!



YEAH--I SPOTTED HIM
LEAVIN' THE GAS MAIN, SO I
SURPRISED HIM AND TIED HIM
UP, FIGURIN' ON A REWARD. BUT
THEN, I REALIZED I COULD
WEAR HIS HELMET, COMMIT
CRIMES AND LET HIM BE
BLAMED FOR 'EM.

BUT,
BATMAN...
THE HOOD
MASKED
BENSON! HOW'D
YOU KNOW
IT WAS HIM?



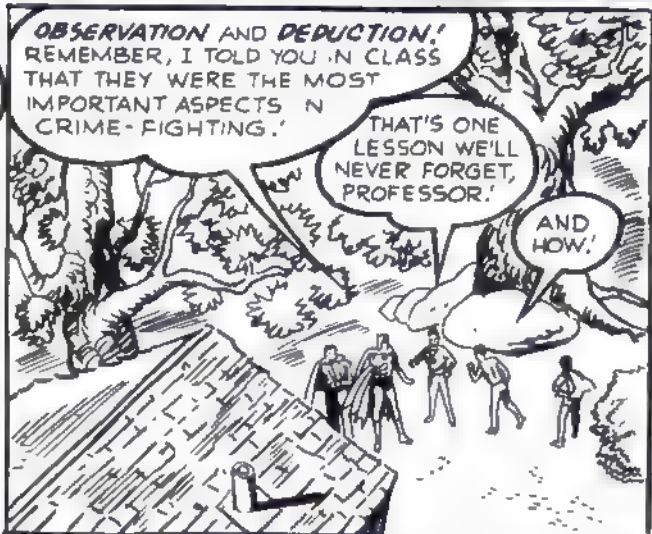
I **OBSERVED** AND **DEDUCED**!
REMEMBER HOW HE AVOIDED ENTERING
THE GAS-FILLED CHAMBER IN THE MUSEUM?
FROM THAT OBSERVATION, I COULD DEDUCE
ONLY ONE POSSIBLE ANSWER--THAT THE
MAN WEARING THE HOOD, THEN, DIDN'T
KNOW HE WAS ALSO WEARING A **GAS**
MASK... THEREFORE, HE WAS **NOT**
THE **REAL RED HOOD**!



OBSERVATION AND DEDUCTION!
REMEMBER, I TOLD YOU IN CLASS
THAT THEY WERE THE MOST
IMPORTANT ASPECTS IN
CRIME-FIGHTING.

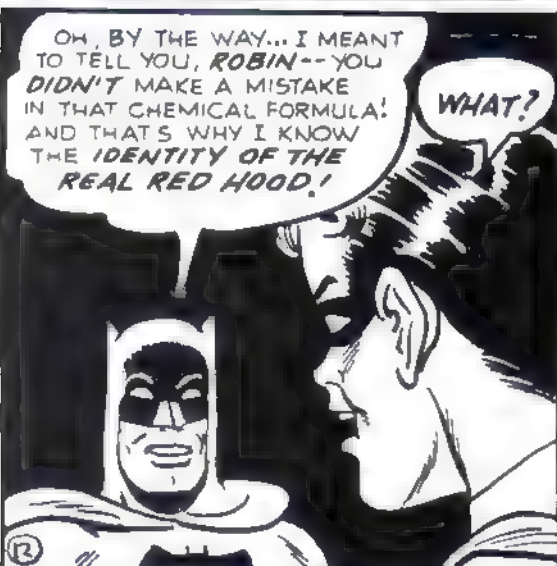
THAT'S ONE
LESSON WE'LL
NEVER FORGET,
PROFESSOR!

AND
HOW!



OH, BY THE WAY... I MEANT
TO TELL YOU, **ROBIN**--YOU
DIDN'T MAKE A MISTAKE
IN THAT CHEMICAL FORMULA!
AND THAT'S WHY I KNOW
THE **IDENTITY OF THE**
REAL RED HOOD!

WHAT?



THE SHED'S DARK!
I CAN'T MAKE OUT THE
MAN'S FACE, BUT I CAN
SEE HE'S GAGGED.

IT'S BEEN A
LONG TIME--
TEN YEARS!
OKAY, JIMMY--
LET'S HAVE A LOOK
AT THE FACE OF THE
RED HOOD!



AND AS THEY REMOVE THE **RED HOOD'S** GAG, THE GROUP STARES AWESTRUCK. FOR THERE, UNDER THE LIGHT'S REVEALING RAYS, STS THE EVIL, GRINNING FACE OF..

THE JOKER!

HA, HA! YES, **BATMAN**, THAT'S THE ONE SECRET I'VE KEPT FROM YOU ALL THESE YEARS. HA, HA, HA.



YES, IT'S TRUE! YOU SEE, YEARS AGO MY SKIN COLORING WAS NORMAL, JUST LIKE YOURS! I WAS A LAB WORKER, UNTIL I DECIDED TO STEAL \$1,000,000 AND RETIRE. SO I BECAME THE **RED HOOD!**

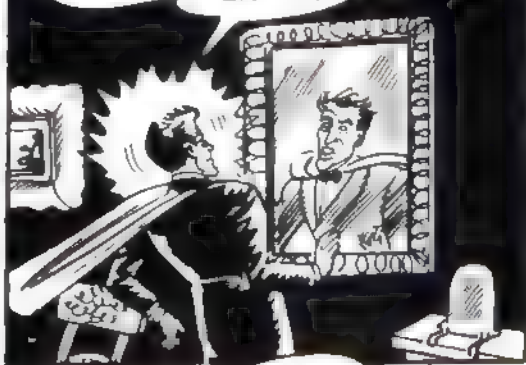


"FINALLY, I REACHED MY GOAL--BY STEALING FROM THE MONARCH PLAYING CARD COMPANY! MY HOOD'S OXYGEN TUBE ENABLED ME TO ESCAPE BY SWIMMING UNDER THE SURFACE OF THE POOL OF **CHEMICAL WASTES...**"



"BUT AT HOME I LOOKED AT MYSELF WITH GROWING HORROR..."

THAT CHEMICAL VAPOR--IT TURNED MY HAIR **GREEN**, MY LIPS **ROUGE-RED**, MY SKIN **CHALK-WHITE!** I LOOK LIKE AN **EVIL CLOWN!** WHAT A JOKE ON ME!



"THEN, I REALIZED MY NEW FACE COULD TERRIFY PEOPLE! AND BECAUSE THE PLAYING CARD COMPANY MADE MY NEW FACE I NAMED MYSELF... AFTER THE CARD WITH THE FACE OF A CLOWN--**THE JOKER!**"

HA!

AND ALL THESE YEARS I'VE BEEN LAUGHING AT YOU! HA HA! YOU NEVER EVEN KNEW MY IDENTITY TILL NOW!

YOU'RE **WRONG**, JOKER... I KNEW YOUR IDENTITY **BEFORE** WE OPENED THE SHACK! **ROBIN** AND A **GREEN HAIR** CAN VOUCH FOR THAT. SO YOU SEE THE JOKE'S BEEN ON YOU ALL ALONG!

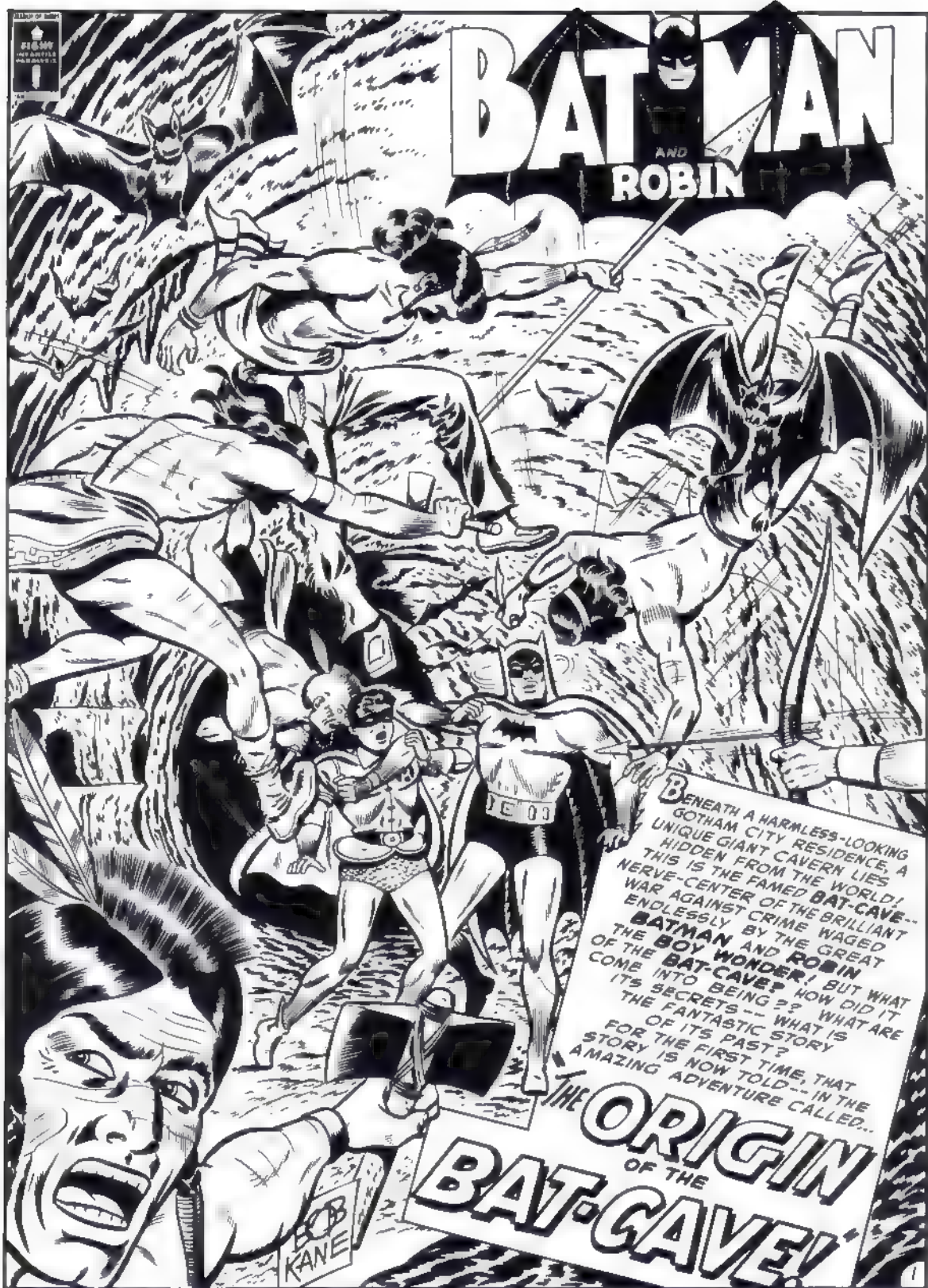
HA, HA... THAT'S RIGHT, JOKER... NOW IT'S OUR TURN TO LAUGH! HA, HA!



HA! HA! HA! HA!



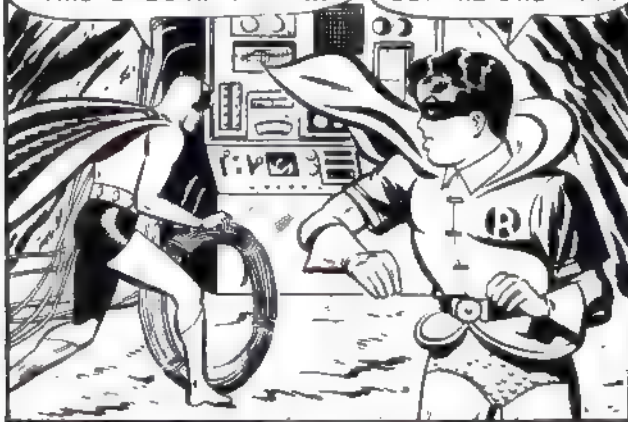
THE END



ONE EVENING IN THE SECRET **BAT-CAVE**,
FABULOUS HEADQUARTERS OF **BATMAN** AND
ROBIN, THE **BOY WONDER**...

OUR NEW ELECTRONIC
EQUIPMENT IS PUTTING TOO
MUCH STRAIN ON OUR WIRING.
WE'D BETTER RE-WIRE, WITH
THIS SPECIAL CABLE...

HMM-- THAT
MEANS A DIGGING
JOB TO GET THE
CABLE UNDER-
GROUND. I'LL
GET THE SHOVELS!



SOON AFTER, IN THE MIDST OF THEIR LABORS.

BATMAN, LOOK
WHAT I DUG UP!
AN OLD PIECE OF
POTTERY-- WITH
SOME STRANGE-
LOOKING INSCRIPTION
ON IT!

HMM! THAT LOOKS
LIKE AMERICAN INDIAN
SYMBOLS, **ROBIN**!
VERY INTERESTING!
WHEN WE'RE
FINISHED WITH THIS
JOB, WE'LL
EXAMINE IT MORE
CLOSELY!



AND LATER, IN THE CRIME LAB...

YOU SAY THAT
GEOLOGIC
EVIDENCE
POINTS TO THAT
POTTERY BEING
THREE HUNDRED
YEARS OLD?

YES! AND IT
ESTABLISHES THE
FACT THAT THE
BAT-CAVE IS
AT LEAST THAT OLD,
TOO! AS FOR THE
INSCRIPTION, WE'LL
NEED A TRANSLATOR
FOR THAT!



GOLLY-- IMAGINE
THE **BAT-CAVE**
BEING THAT OLD! YOU
KNOW-- THIS PLACE HAS
ALWAYS INTRIGUED ME.
HOW DID YOU EVER
FIND IT, IN THE
FIRST PLACE?

OH-OH! LOOKS
LIKE WE'RE IN
FOR A SESSION
OF REMINISCING.
WELL, I DON'T
MIND. I'M KIND OF
FASCINATED BY THE
BAT-CAVE MYSELF!



AND AS **BATMAN'S** STORY BEGINS...

"ACTUALLY, **ROBIN**, THE **BAT-CAVE** WAS FIRST
DISCOVERED BY ACCIDENT! I HAD NO IDEA IT
EXISTED WHEN I PURCHASED THIS HOUSE AS **BRUCE**
WAYNE..."

YES,
MR. WAYNE-- I'M SURE
YOU'RE GOING TO
FIND THIS HOUSE
VERY COMFORTABLE!

HMM! IF HE ONLY
KNEW THAT IN THIS
HOUSE THE LEGEND
OF **BATMAN**
WILL BEGIN!



"I HAD PLANNED TO USE AN OLD
BARN AT THE REAR OF THE PROPERTY
AS MY SECRET HEADQUARTERS. BUT
ONE DAY, AS I WAS TESTING THE FLOOR,
IT SUDDENLY GAVE WAY!"

I'M
FALLING! BUT TO
WHERE? WHAT
COULD POSSIBLY
BE UNDER THIS
BARN?



"I SOON FOUND OUT! AND LUCKILY THE HAY FALLING WITH ME CUSHIONED MY COLLISION WITH A ROCKY CAVERN FLOOR!"

A CAVE! A TREMENDOUS CAVE-- AND FULL OF **BATS!** AN OMEN-- IF I EVER SAW ONE!



"I QUICKLY EXPLORED THE CAVE, SOON FOUND TUNNELS THAT WOULD LEAD ME TO THE SURFACE. AND I ALSO WAS ABLE TO DETERMINE THAT THE CAVE RAN DIRECTLY UNDER MY HOUSE!"

THIS CAVE SHALL BE MY HEAD-QUARTERS! I'LL CALL IT THE **BAT-CAVE!** I'LL CLOSE OFF THE TUNNELS-- AND HAVE A SECRET ENTRANCE TO MY HOUSE-- WHICH I JUDGE TO BE RIGHT ABOVE ME!



"MY ENTRANCE TO THE **BAT-CAVE** WAS SOON ESTABLISHED! A LONG FLIGHT OF STAIRS REACHED THROUGH A GRANDFATHER'S CLOCK IN MY STUDY!"

PERFECT! AND NOW TO EQUIP MY **BAT-CAVE** WITH ALL THE MODERN WEAPONS AGAINST CRIME.

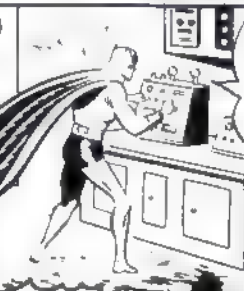


"I ADOPTED YOU SOON AFTER, **ROBIN!** SURELY YOU REMEMBER THE DAY WE SET UP THE NEW CRIME LAB?"

THESE FILES WILL CONTAIN THE MOST COMPLETE DATA ON CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES AND PERSONALITIES EVER COMPILED BY ANY AGENCY!

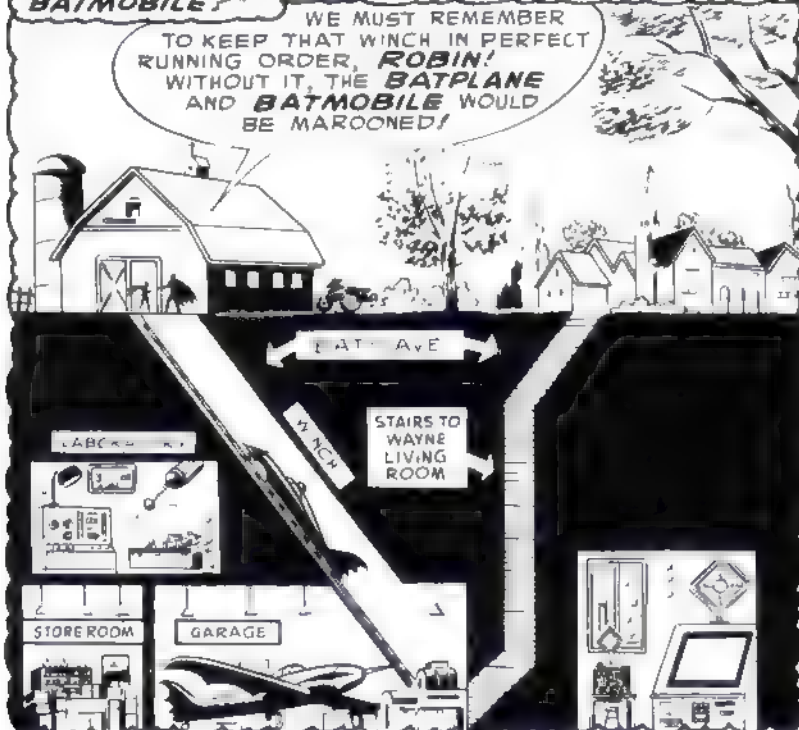


RIGHT, **ROBIN!** AND WHEN I GET THIS SPECTROSCOPE MACHINE SETUP, IT WILL ENABLE US TO IDENTIFY MINUTE PARTICLES BY THEIR COLOR-SPECTRUM BREAKDOWN!



"AND HOW ABOUT ALL THE WORK WE WENT THROUGH SETTING UP THE BARN AS AN EXIT FOR THE **BATPLANE** AND **BATMOBILE?**"

WE MUST REMEMBER TO KEEP THAT WINCH IN PERFECT RUNNING ORDER, **ROBIN!** WITHOUT IT, THE **BATPLANE** AND **BATMOBILE** WOULD BE MAROONED!



"OF COURSE, I DON'T THINK ANYTHING GAVE US A BIGGER KICK THAN TO WATCH THE HALL OF TROPHIES BEGIN TO CROWD UP WITH MEMENTOS OF THE CRIMES WE HAD SOLVED!"

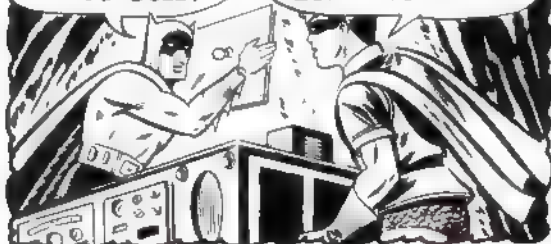
EXIT ANOTHER CRIMINAL ADVENTURE-- ENTER ANOTHER EXHIBIT FOR OUR HALL OF TROPHIES!



BUT WE HAD SOME KNOTTY PROBLEMS TO LICK, DIDN'T WE? FOR INSTANCE, THERE WAS THE BAT-SIGNAL - WHICH WE COULDN'T SEE FROM THE BAT-CAVE...

THIS TRANSMITTER WILL BEAM A PHOTO-ELECTRIC CELL DIRECTLY OVER POLICE HEADQUARTERS. ANY TIME THE **BAT-SIGNAL** FLASHES ON, IT WILL INTERRUPT THE CELL AND ILLUMINATE THIS RED BULB!

AND THAT WILL BE OUR CUE TO GET MOVING OVER TO COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE!



AND AS THE MEMORIES FADE AWAY, AND WE RETURN TO THE PRESENT...

YES, **ROBIN**--THE **BAT-CAVE** HAS BECOME A LEGEND BY ITSELF. AND TOMORROW WE'LL LEARN MORE ABOUT IT WHEN WE HAVE THIS INSCRIPTION TRANSLATED...



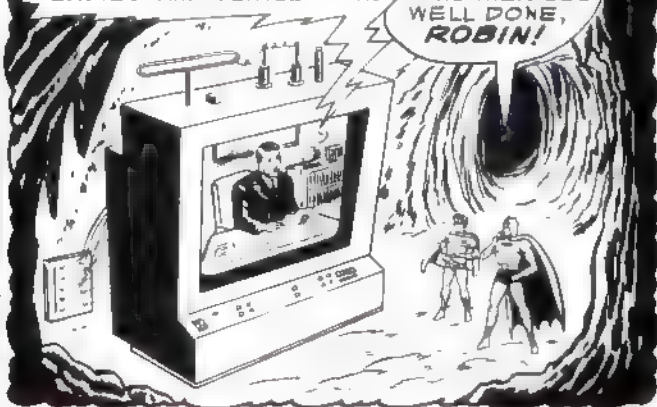
WELL, IT'S HARD TO BE EXACT! BUT, TRANSLATING IT FREELY, IT SAYS SOMETHING LIKE: "DEATH TO THE MAN OF TWO IDENTITIES!"



"REMEMBER HOW WE SOLVED THE TELEVISION PROBLEM? WE DEvised AN INTRICATE INDOOR ANTENNA WHICH WAS HOOKED UP IN RELAY TO THE INNOCENT-LOOKING ANTENNA ON BRUCE WAYNE'S ROOF!"

AND THAT'S THE NEWS FOR THIS EVENING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN...

PERFECT RECEPTION! ANOTHER JOB WELL DONE, **ROBIN!**



NEXT MORNING, AS MILLIONAIRE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON, VISIT THE CURATOR OF A LARGE MUSEUM...

VERY INTERESTING, MR WAYNE. YES, I AGREE WITH YOU-- IT IS ROUGHLY 300 YEARS OLD.

CAN YOU TRANSLATE THAT INSCRIPTION FOR US, SIR?



AND LATER...

IT'S UNCANNY, BRUCE! THAT INSCRIPTION WAS WRITTEN THREE CENTURIES AGO-- YET IT HAS A DEFINITE MODERN MEANING! HOW COULD THAT BE?

I DON'T KNOW. BUT I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO FIND OUT! AND I WON'T BE HAPPY TILL I DO!



THAT AFTERNOON...

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO, DICK-- WE MUST GO BACK IN TIME-- 300 YEARS-- TO SOLVE THE RIDDLE OF THE POTTERY!

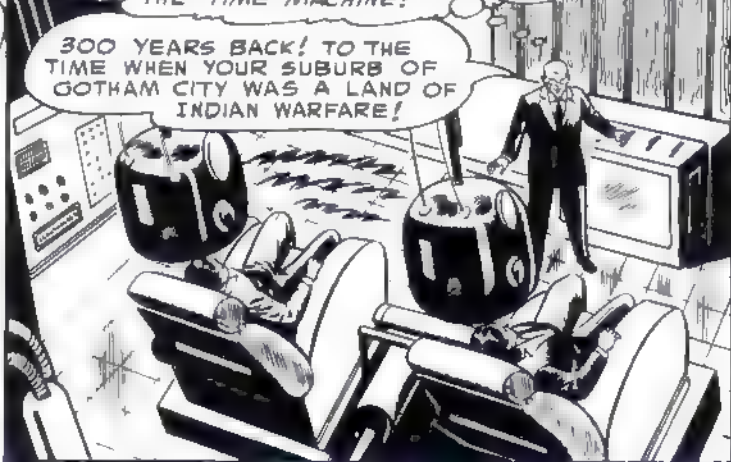
THAT MEANS **PROF. NICHOLS**-- THE SCIENTIST WHO SENT US BACK IN TIME BEFORE! LET'S SEE HIM RIGHT AWAY!



AND LATER, IN THE STRANGE LABORATORY OF PROFESSOR NICHOLS, A SCIENTIST WHOSE UNIQUE METHODS HAVE SUCCEEDED IN PENETRATING THE **TIME BARRIER**...

FIRST-- HYPNOSIS! THEN I'LL TURN ON THE TIME MACHINE!

300 YEARS BACK! TO THE TIME WHEN YOUR SUBURB OF GOTHAM CITY WAS A LAND OF INDIAN WARFARE!

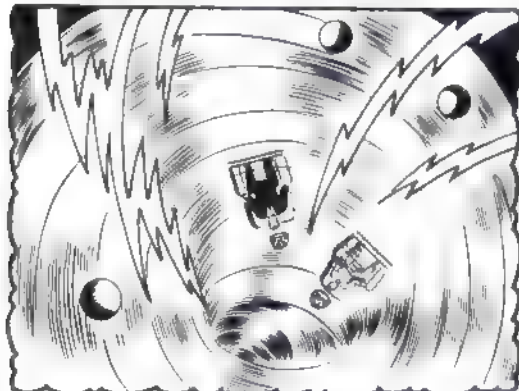


A WEIRD RINGING IN THEIR EARS-- THE SENSATION OF DROPPING OFF INTO A BOTTOMLESS ABYSS, BEING CAUGHT UP IN A GIANT WHIRLPOOL OF BLACKNESS-- AND THE LAWMEN BEGIN THEIR FANTASTIC TRIP BACK THROUGH THE CENTURIES!

AND THEN, AS THE VIOLENT SPINNING STOPS AND THE VEIL OF BLACKNESS ABRUPTLY FALLS AWAY...

WE'RE HERE! IMAGINE, BRUCE--THIS IS THE OUTSKIRTS OF WHAT SOME DAY WILL BE GOTHAM CITY!

HOLD IT! LISTEN! HOOFEATS! WE'D BETTER CHANGE INTO OUR **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** UNIFORMS TO BE READY FOR WHATEVER ACTION COMES ALONG!



MOMENTS LATER...

BATMAN, LOOK! TWO INDIANS ON THE WARPATH AFTER THAT WHITE MAN!

AND THAT FRONTIERSMAN'S HORSE HAS STUMBLER! COME ON, **ROBIN**-- WE'D BETTER MAKE THIS OUR FIGHT, TOO!



NO SCALPS TODAY, FELLOWS--IF YOU DON'T MIND!



AND AS A GRIM BATTLE ENSUES...

LET'S--GET--RID--
OF--THAT--KNIFE!

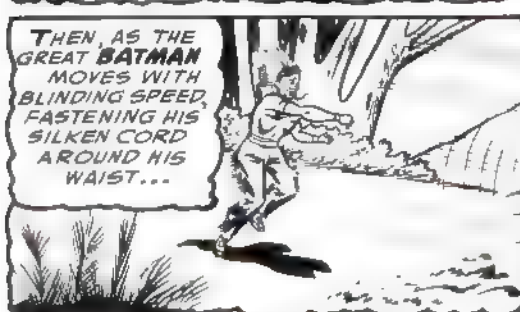
AND LET'S GET
RID OF THAT
BOW-AND-ARROW!



ROBIN'S IN TROUBLE! I'VE
GOT TO GET THERE FAST!



THEN, AS THE
GREAT BATMAN
MOVES WITH
BLINDING SPEED,
FASTENING HIS
SILKEN CORD
AROUND HIS
WAIST...



ROBIN! I'VE DIVERTED
THE ROCK! GRAB THE
SILKEN CORD!



AND MOMENTS LATER...

NICE TO SEE YOU, **ROBIN!** YOU'RE
TOO LATE, THOUGH. LOOKS LIKE
THIS FIGHT IS OVER!

IT'S JUST AS
WELL! MY
KNEES ARE
STILL SHAKING!



HOLD ON,
BATMAN!
I'LL BE UP IN
A MINUTE!



THEN, AS **BATMAN** PUTS THE UNCONSCIOUS REDMEN
ON THEIR HORSES...

THESE HORSES WILL FIND THEIR
WAY HOME! AND THOSE WARRIORS
WILL PROBABLY BE OUTLAWED FROM
THE TRIBE FOR DISGRACING IT!

BATMAN,
COME HERE!
HE'S STIRRING!



SOON AFTER...

WHITE MEN--THANK HEAVENS!
YOUR GARB IS STRANGE--I DO
NOT KNOW IT-- BUT YOU'RE A
WELCOME SIGHT!
YOU SAVED MY
LIFE! OHHH! MY
LEG! AFRAID
IT'S BROKEN!

TAKE
IT EASY,
NOW!



MY NAME IS JEREMY
COE. THOSE INDIANS
AMBUSHED ME ON THE
WAY TO MY SECRET
HEADQUARTERS!
COME! CARRY
ME AND I'LL
SHOW YOU!



FOLLOWING THE INJURED MAN'S
DIRECTIONS, BATMAN AND
ROBIN CARRY HIM TO THE BASE
OF A GIANT TREE, WHERE, AT
THE TWIST OF A BRANCH, A DOOR
IN THE TREE-TRUNK SUDDENLY
SPRINGS OPEN!

THERE! RIGGED
THIS UP MYSELF!
CLEVER, EH? THERE'S
A TUNNEL, LEADS
DOWN INTO A
CAVE!

COME ON,
ROBIN!
I'LL GO
FIRST, YOU
LOWER HIM
DOWN TO
ME!



AND SHORTLY AFTERWARDS...

HERE'S WHERE I HIDE--
AND DISGUISE MYSELF
AS AN INDIAN! SEE
ALL THOSE BATS?
THEY'VE GIVEN THIS
PLACE ITS NAME!
I CALL IT MY
BAT-CAVE!

(WHISPERING)
THIS IS IT,
ALL RIGHT--I
CAN TELL BY
THE CONTOURS!
AND THIS IS
OUR MAN OF
TWO IDENTITIES,
ROBIN--A MAN
WHO DOUBLES
AS AN INDIAN!



I'LL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING QUICKLY.
ACTUALLY, I'M A SPY-- AND THIS IS
HOW I OPERATE!...



YOU'RE A
BRAVE MAN,
COE-- GOING
OFF TO SPY
ON THE SAVAGES
FOR US!

IT'S THE ONLY WAY! IF WE
CAN LEARN THEIR PLANS
AHEAD OF TIME, WE CAN
DEFEAT THEM. AND I
HAVE A SCHEME THAT
MAY WORK!

COE'S STORY:
"THE REDMAN'S
ATTACKS ON THE
WESTERN-MOST
COLONIES HAD
BECOME MORE
AND MORE
SAVAGE--AND
USUALLY CAUGHT
US BY SURPRISE."



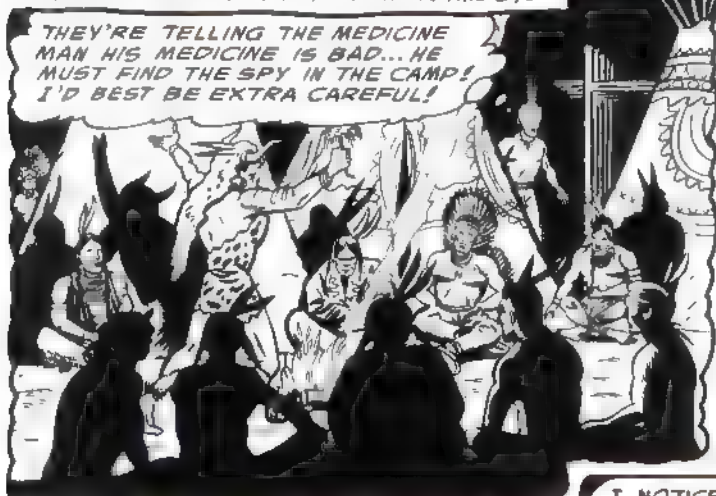
"MY IDEA WAS TO MINGLE WITH THE INDIANS AS ONE OF THEM, OPERATING FROM A BASE NEARBY. LUCKILY, I DISCOVERED MY BAT-CAVE -- IT WAS THE PERFECT SPOT..."



"I HAD NO TROUBLE MINGLING WITH THE INDIANS. IN A TIME OF UPRISING, MANY TRIBES ALLY AND MIX. NEW FACES ARE NOT UNCOMMON..."



"MY OPERATION WAS SUCCESSFUL. THE INDIAN ATTACKS WERE BEATEN OFF ONE BY ONE! BUT SOON THE OLD CHIEFS KNEW THERE MUST BE A SPY IN THEIR MIDST!"



I WASN'T CAUGHT. I MADE MY REPORT TO FORT GEORGE, THEN STARTED BACK HERE. UNLUCKILY, I RAN INTO THOSE INDIANS -- BUT I'M SURE THEY DIDN'T KNOW WHO I REALLY WAS...

YOU'D BETTER REST NOW. I'VE SET YOUR LEG IN A SPLINT. WE'LL SEE THAT YOU GET WHAT YOU NEED.



BUT NOW--JUST WHEN MY ESPIONAGE IS NEEDED MOST--I'M HELPLESS! THE INDIANS ARE PLANNING A MAJOR CAMPAIGN--AND I'M UNABLE TO SPY ON THEM! AND THE FATE OF THE WHOLE COLONY IS IN THE BALANCE!

DON'T BE TOO DISCOURAGED! PERHAPS THERE'S A WAY, MAYBE I COULD TAKE OVER FOR YOU, AFTER I'VE CHANGED A FEW THINGS AROUND HERE...



I NOTICE YOU LEAVE YOUR HORSE UNATTENDED WHILE YOU'RE DOWN HERE--WHISTLING FOR HIM, WHEN YOU COME UP, THAT'S BAD--THE ANIMAL COULD LEAD THE INDIANS TO THIS CAVE. COME ON, ROBIN--WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO--IN THAT LOG-CABIN I SPOTTED BEFORE!



SOON AFTER, IN THE ABANDONED LOG CABIN ABOVE THE BAT-CAVE...

A FEW OF THE CONCENTRATED EXPLOSIVE PILLS FROM MY UTILITY BELT SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO BLOW A HOLE THROUGH TO THE BAT-CAVE.

AND WITH THIS VINE AND ALL THE TIMBER LYING AROUND, WE'LL RIG UP A REAL SURPRISE FOR JEREMY COE...

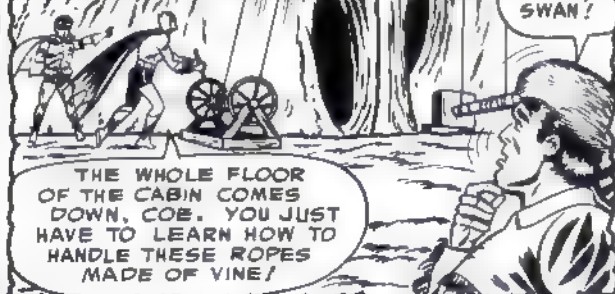


A FEW HOURS LATER, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN COMPLETE THEIR LABORS...

SHADES OF THE WINCH IN THE REAL BAT-CAVE!

THERE YOU ARE, COE! YOU RIDE YOUR HORSE INTO THE CABIN, THEN YOU COME DOWN HERE, AND PULL YOUR HORSE DOWN AFTER YOU!

WELL, I SWAN!



THE WHOLE FLOOR OF THE CABIN COMES DOWN, COE. YOU JUST HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO HANDLE THESE ROPES MADE OF VINE!

SOON AFTER...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT BIRCH-BARK? LOOKS LIKE SOME SORT OF PIPE...

YOU'LL SEE! I NOTICE YOU HAVE SOME HAND-MIRRORS, THE KIND INDIANS USE TO FLASH SIGNALS WITH SUNLIGHT. ROBIN, WOULD YOU GO GET THEM...?



AND AS BATMAN CONTINUES "REARRANGING" THE OLD BAT-CAVE.

YOU USE A DYE MADE FROM BARK TO COLOR YOUR SKIN, BUT THERE'S MUCH MORE YOU CAN DO. THESE DIFFERENT SPECIES OF BARK, LEAVES AND HERBS CAN PROVIDE MEDICINES, TANNING AGENTS, CHEMICALS-- A WHOLE VARIETY OF THINGS!

THE CRIME LAB-- FRONTIER STYLE!



SHORTLY AFTERWARDS...

IT'S CALLED A PERISCOPE, COE. BY RAISING IT THROUGH ITS OPENING IN THE CEILING, AND TWISTING IT AROUND, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEE IN ALL DIRECTIONS, AND POSSIBLY SPOT AN ATTACK ON THIS CAVE!

NOT EXACTLY AN ELECTRONIC WARNING DEVICE, NOR TELEVISION, BUT THOSE THINGS HAVEN'T BEEN INVENTED YET!



THEN...

DON'T YOU THINK IT WOULD BE A NICE IDEA TO START A TROPHY COLLECTION? HERE-- THE BOW-AND-ARROW USED BY THE INDIAN ROBIN WAS FIGHTING-- THAT'S A GOOD BEGINNING!

I WAS WONDERING IF BATMAN WOULD FORGET THE HALL OF TROPHIES! THAT'S A REAL UNUSUAL ARROW-HEAD-- IT WOULD GRACE ANY COLLECTION!



AND SOON AFTER...

YOU'VE SET UP THE **DISGUISE WARDROBE** JUST LIKE THE ONE IN THE MODERN **BAT-CAVE!**

YES! AND NOW TO PICK AN APPROPRIATE DISGUISE FOR MY ROLE AS AN **INDIAN SPY!**



QUICKLY, **BATMAN** TRANSFORMS HIMSELF INTO AN **INDIAN**-- NOT BOTHERING TO HIDE HIS TRUE FEATURES FROM **COE** SINCE THIS IS AN ADVENTURE IN THE PAST, AND THE **BATMAN** IDENTITY MEANS NOTHING...

YOU LOOK PERFECT! BUT--TAKE IT EASY! THIS IS A DANGEROUS MISSION!

I'VE GOT MY **BATMAN** UNIFORM IN MY QUIVER, FOR EMERGENCIES. YOU STAY HERE--TAKE CARE OF **COE**. I'LL TAKE THE SPARE HORSE, AND TROT TO THE REDSKIN CAMP, INDIAN-STYLE. IT WILL APPEAR I'VE COME A LONG WAY!



LATER AT THE INDIAN ENCAMPMENT, AS **BATMAN** IS ACCEPTED WITHOUT UNDUE SUSPICION...

AND SO IT IS THAT THE GREAT **BATMAN** BECOMES AN INDIAN OF THREE CENTURIES AGO!

A WAR COUNCIL--PLOTING THE NEXT MOVE! THAT CURLING LINE LOOKS LIKE THE **PAMARO RIVER**--AND APPARENTLY THEY PLAN TO ATTACK AT THE RIVER JUNCTION! I'VE SEEN ENOUGH--NOW TO SLIP AWAY!

I NEVER DREAMED I'D BE DOING THIS ONE DAY!



BUT THEN, AN UNFORESEEN STROKE OF BAD LUCK! A SUDDEN, DRENCHING CLOUD-BURST!

LIKE GREASED LIGHTNING, THE **BAT-INDIAN** DARTS INTO A NEARBY GROVE--APPEARING A MOMENT LATER AS THE REAL **BATMAN**, AS THE BRIEF STORM BLOWS AWAY...

MY DISGUISE--WASHED AWAY! THEY'VE SPOTTED ME--THERE'S THE POTTERY WITH THE DEATH-THREAT FOR THE MAN OF TWO IDENTITIES! WELL--MY **BATMAN** IDENTITY IS MY ONLY CHANCE--I'LL TRY TO CONFUSE THEM!

WHO ARE YOU, MAN--WHO-LOOKS-LIKE-BAT?

GOOD! ONE OF THEM SPEAKS ENGLISH! I'LL TRY TO MAKE THEM THINK I'M SOME SORT OF SPECIAL MEDICINE MAN!



I'LL SHOW THEM **BATARANG** MAGIC FOR A WHILE, TO IMPRESS THEM! I'VE GOT TO STALL FOR TIME-- WHILE I CONTACT **ROBIN** VIA THE BELT-RADIO AND HAVE HIM COME GALLOPING IN TO RESCUE ME! IT'S A CINCH I CAN'T RUN FOR IT!



BUT MOMENTS LATER...

MY BELT-RADIO--**NOT WORKING!** THE RAIN WATER MUST HAVE GOTTEN TO IT! HMM! THESE SMOKE PELLETS WILL DIVERT THEM FOR NOW-- BUT HOW CAN I CONTACT **ROBIN**? IF I ONLY HAD THE **BAT-SIGNAL!**



THEN, AS A SUDDEN THOUGHT STRIKES THE CORNERED LAWMAN...

SIGNALS! OF COURSE! THE INDIAN KIND OF SIGNALS--**SMOKE-SIGNALS!** BUT HOW TO SIGNAL **ROBIN**?



THEN, BEFORE THE AWED EYES OF THE SUPERSTITIOUS SAVAGES...



LUCKY THIS SMOKE IS SO THICK, AND HOLDS THE SHAPE OF MY **BAT-LIKE CAPE!**

MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE **BAT-CAVE**...

SMOKE-SIGNALS IN THE SHAPE OF **BATS!** THAT'S A 17TH CENTURY **BAT-SIGNAL**, IF I EVER SAW ONE! I'VE GOT TO RUSH!



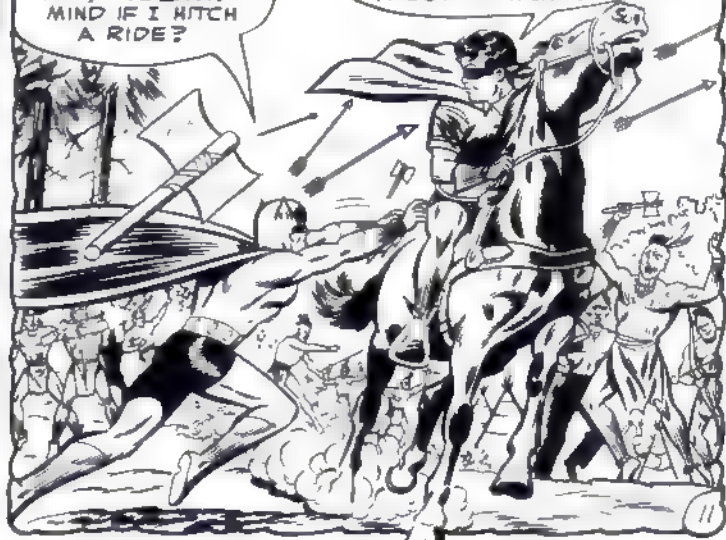
AND SOON AFTER...

GREAT TO SEE YOU, **ROBIN!** MIND IF I HITCH A RIDE?

NO, **SIR!** BUT IT LOOKS LIKE **THESE** CHAPS MIND! WE'D BETTER HIGH-TAIL IT OUT OF HERE!

MAN-WHO-LOOKS-LIKE-BAT HAS POWERFUL MEDICINE! HE CALLS UPON GREAT SPIRITS!

???



THEY'LL PICK UP
OUR TRAIL FOR
SURE! WE'VE LED
THEM RIGHT TO
THE **BAT-CAVE!**

THAT'S UNFORTUNATE,
BUT WE CAN'T LEAVE
COE HERE HELPLESS!
WE'VE GOT TO GET
HIM TO SAFETY!



SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, AS THE LAWMEN BRING
JEREMY COE OUT OF THE **BAT-CAVE** AND
RUSH FOR FORT GEORGE...

THEY'VE REACHED IT!
THEY'VE SET THE LOG
CABIN ON FIRE!

NO MATTER! THE
BAT-CAVE HAS
SERVED ITS PURPOSE
FOR NOW!



AND AFTER A HARD JOURNEY...

JEREMY COE!
WE THOUGHT YOU
WERE DEAD! WE'VE
GREAT NEWS FOR
YOU, JEREMY! HUGE
REINFORCEMENTS
HAVE ARRIVED--
THE INDIANS
WILL SOON BE
DRIVEN OUT!

ROBIN! MY
EYESIGHT'S
FADING! WE'LL
SOON SLIP BACK
INTO THE PRESENT.
HURRY-- WE'VE
GOT TO GET OUT
OF OUR UNIFORMS!



AND AS ASTONISHING AS IT BEGAN, SO
DOES A REMARKABLE ADVENTURE
INTO THE PAST COME TO ITS END!



THANK YOU, DOCTOR! OUR
ARCHEOLOGICAL TRIP INTO THE
PAST PROVED SUCCESSFUL. WE
DISCOVERED THE SECRET OF
OUR STRANGE PIECE OF
POTTERY!

AND THEN, AS **BATMAN'S** SHOVEL STRIKES
A METALLIC OBJECT...

BUT LATER, IN THE MODERN **BAT-CAVE**...

NOW THAT WE'RE
IN THE **REAL**
BAT-CAVE, IT
SEEMS LIKE I
DREAMED EVERY-
THING ELSE,
BATMAN! ARE
YOU SURE WE
WEREN'T JUST
HYPNOTIZED?

MAYBE WE
WERE, BUT
THEN--MAYBE
WE CAN PROVE
THAT OUR
ADVENTURE
EXISTED! LET'S
JUST DIG A
LITTLE, **ROBIN!**



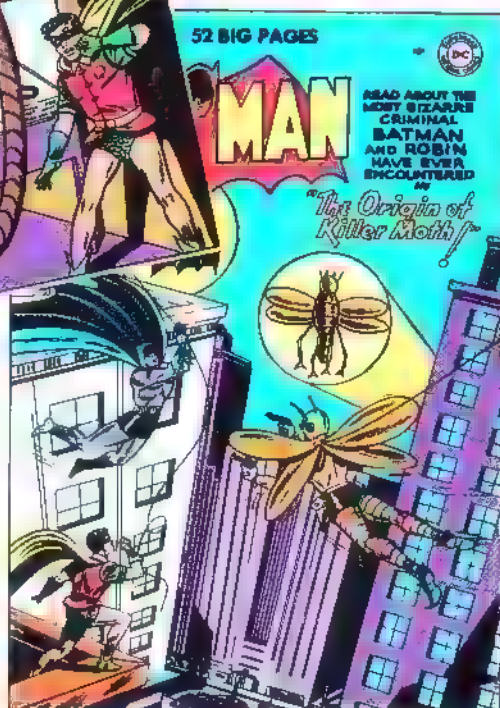
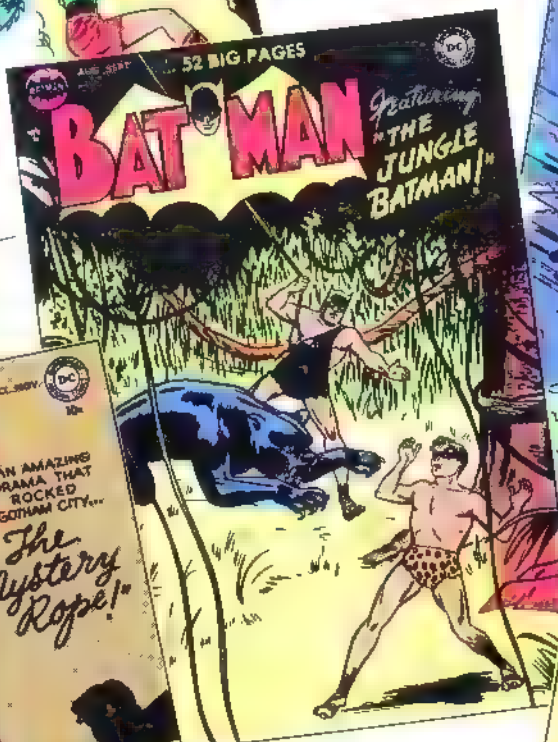
WHAT DO YOU
SAY TO THIS,
ROBIN?

GOLLY! THAT STRANGE-LOOKING
ARROWHEAD OF JEREMY COE'S
HALL OF TROPHIES? I GUESS
EVERYTHING REALLY HAPPENED,
AFTER ALL!





IN THE 50s





YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES



SUPERMAN
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

and

BATMAN
ROBIN

IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!

MANY TIMES HAS
SUPERMAN

BATTLED HIS MOST DANGEROUS
ENEMY--THAT WARPED SCIENTIFIC
GENIUS, **LUTHOR!** AND EQUALLY OFTEN, IN
DISTANT GOTHAM CITY, HAVE **BATMAN**
AND **ROBIN** BEEN CHALLENGED BY THAT
CUNNING, CROOKED CLOWN, **THE JOKER!**
BUT NOW, THE **MAN OF STEEL** AND THE
DYNAMIC DUO FACE THEIR FIERCEST
STRUGGLE OF ALL, WHEN **LUTHOR** AND
THE JOKER FORM A **PARTNERSHIP**, TO
BECOME...

**"SUPERMAN'S AND
BATMAN'S
Greatest
FOES!"**

THE JOKER
AND LUTHOR ARE
WORKING TOGETHER
NOW-- AND YET, WE
CAN'T STOP
THEM!



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IN METROPOLIS CITY HALL, ONE MORNING, A STARTLING SIGHT AROUSES A CLERK IN THE LICENSES OFFICE...

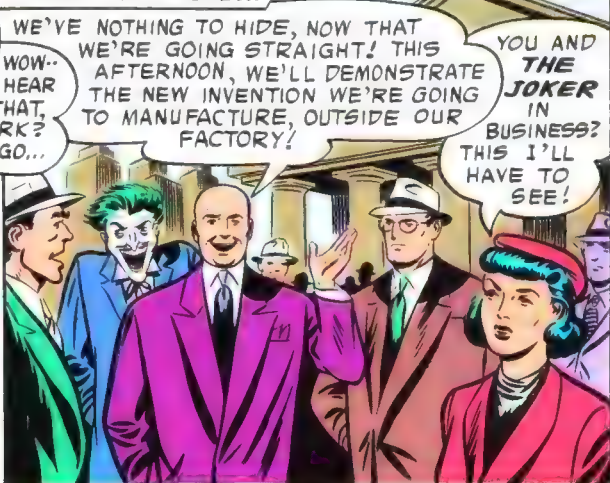
MY PARTNER WILL SIGN HIS NAME, TOO...
THE JOKER!

YES, HA--HA-- I, TOO, AM GOING HONEST! I CAME HERE FROM GOTHAM CITY, TO GET A NEW START!



IT DOESN'T TAKE LONG FOR SENSATIONAL NEWS LIKE THIS TO REACH THE DAILY PLANET...

WHEN REPORTERS CLARK KENT AND LOIS LANE REACH THE SCENE...



BUT AS THE JOKER'S FLASHY CAR, THE JOKERMOBILE, ROLLS AWAY...

I'M SURE OUR NEW CAREERS WILL INTEREST OUR OLD FRIENDS **SUPERMAN** AND **BATMAN**, TOO!

YES-- HA, HA-- AND WHAT A SURPRISE THEY'RE IN FOR... HO, HO, HO!



AREN'T YOU COMING WITH ME, CLARK?

SORRY, LOIS, I... ER... JUST REMEMBERED ANOTHER ASSIGNMENT!

I HEARD WHAT THE JOKER SAID, WITH MY **SUPER-HEARING!** I DON'T LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT AT ALL!



FOR HIS OTHER "ASSIGNMENT," MILD-MANNERED CLARK KENT SECRETLY SWITCHES TO-- **SUPERMAN, THE MAN OF STEEL...**

WITH THOSE TWO CROOKS TEAMED UP, ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN! AND SINCE **BATMAN** KNOWS **THE JOKER'S** TRICKS BETTER THAN ANYONE...

...I'LL PAY HIM A QUICK VISIT, AND LET HIM KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON!



DOWN THEY RACE TO THEIR SECRET **BAT-CAVE**, ONLY TO DISCOVER...

IT'S **SUPERMAN**! HE DRILLED UP FROM UNDER-NEATH!

SORRY IF I STARTLED YOU, BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO CHANCE ANYONE SEEING ME ENTER! I'VE GOT NEWS FOR YOU...

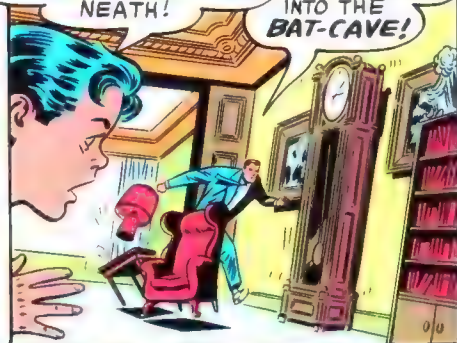
TO THE **DYNAMIC DUO**, IT'S OMINOUS NEWS INDEED...



ONLY MOMENTS LATER, IN THE GOTHAM CITY MANSION OF WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

BRUCE! SOMETHING'S SHAKING THE WHOLE HOUSE-- FROM UNDER-NEATH!

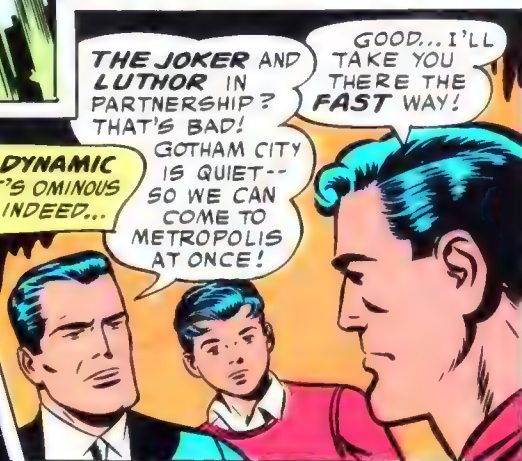
SOMEONE MAY BE TRYING TO BREAK INTO THE **BAT-CAVE**!



THE JOKER AND **LUTHOR** IN PARTNERSHIP? THAT'S BAD!

GOOD... I'LL TAKE YOU THERE THE **FAST WAY**!

GOTHAM CITY IS QUIET-- SO WE CAN COME TO METROPOLIS AT ONCE!



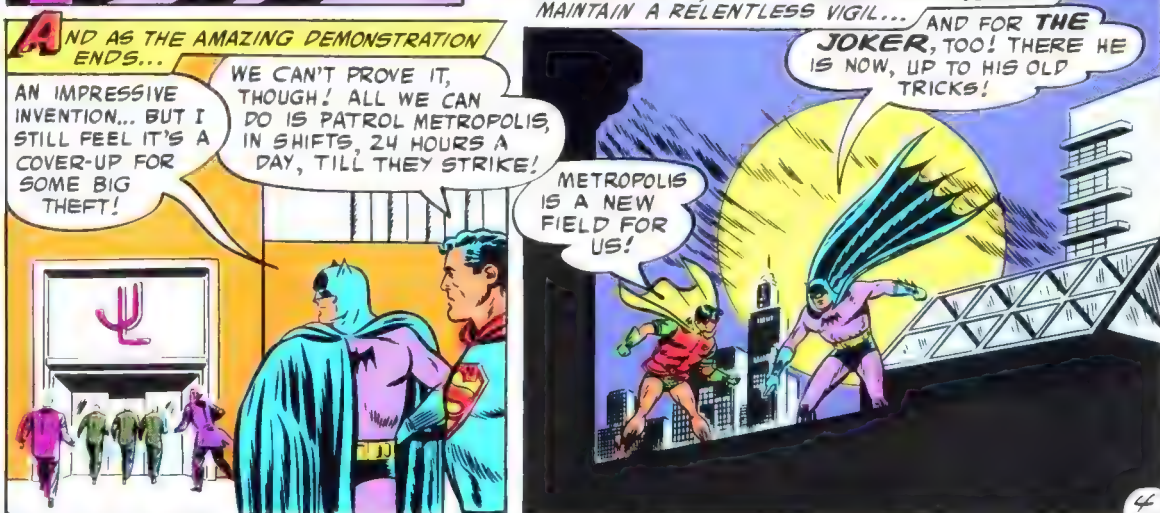
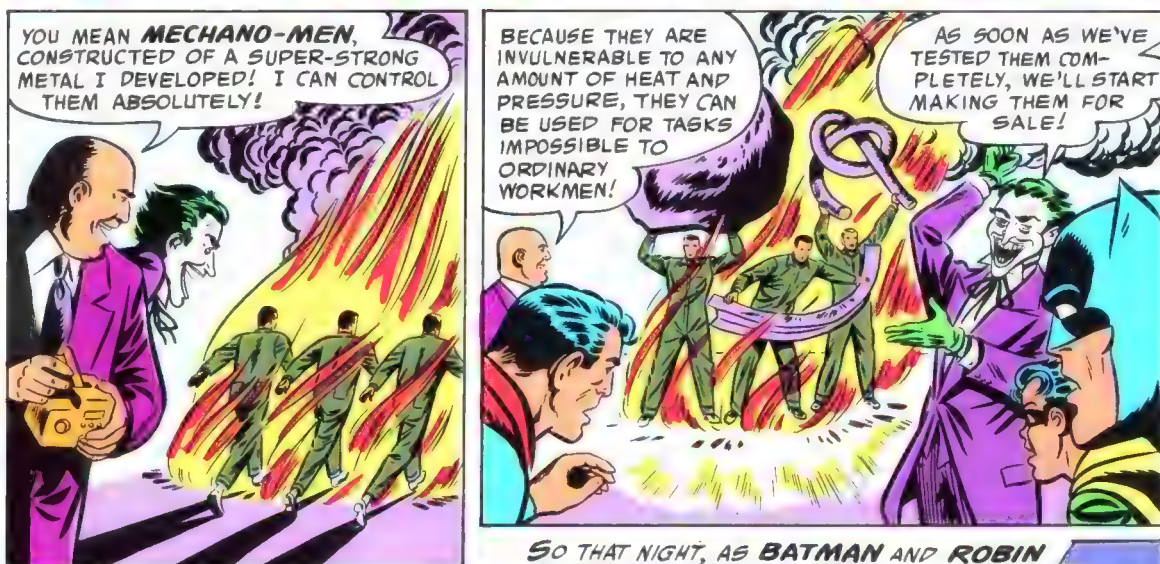
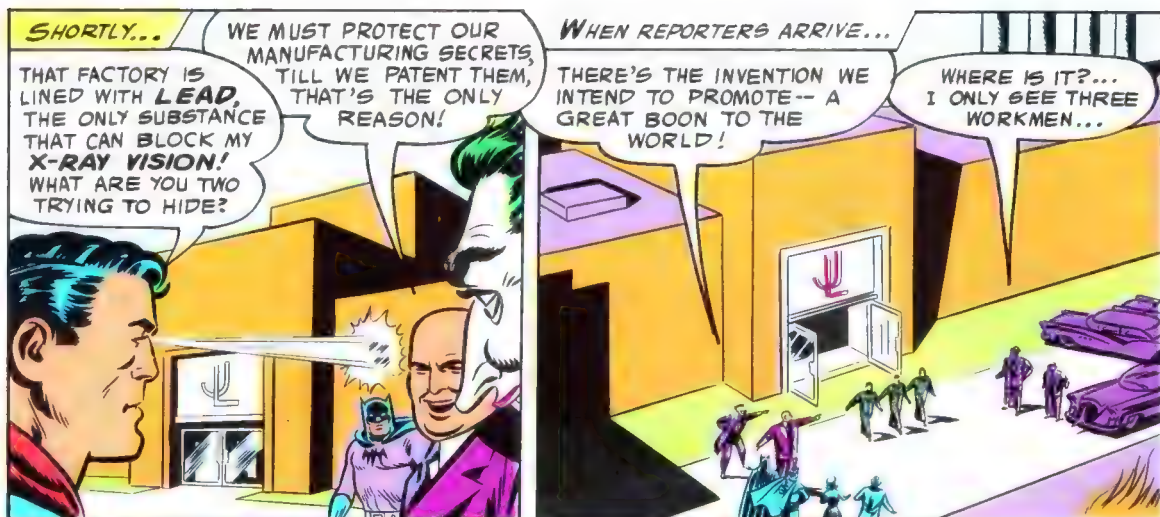
BACK IN METROPOLIS, OUTSIDE THE NEW PARTNER'S FACTORY...

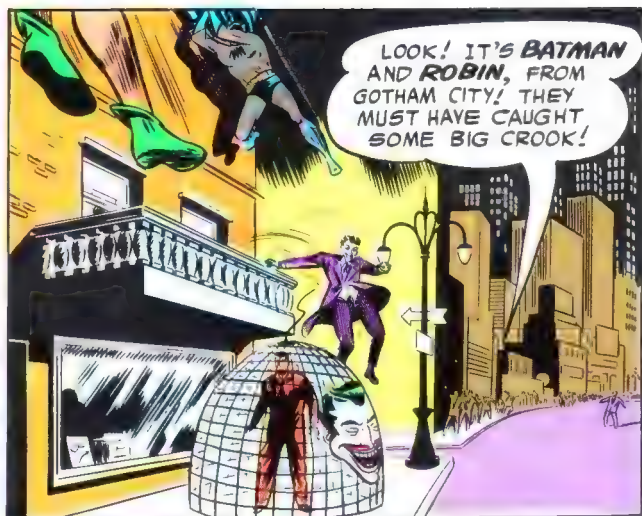
AH... THERE COME **SUPERMAN, BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, AS WE EXPECTED! WHAT A JOKE ON THEM THIS WILL BE!

YES... HA, HA... THE GREATEST JOKE OF MY ENTIRE JESTING CAREER, THANKS TO YOUR SCIENTIFIC GENIUS, LUTHOR!

NO, NO, MY DEAR FELLOW! IT WAS THROUGH YOUR BRILLIANT SENSE OF HUMOR THAT THIS WHOLE SCHEME WAS CONCOCTED!

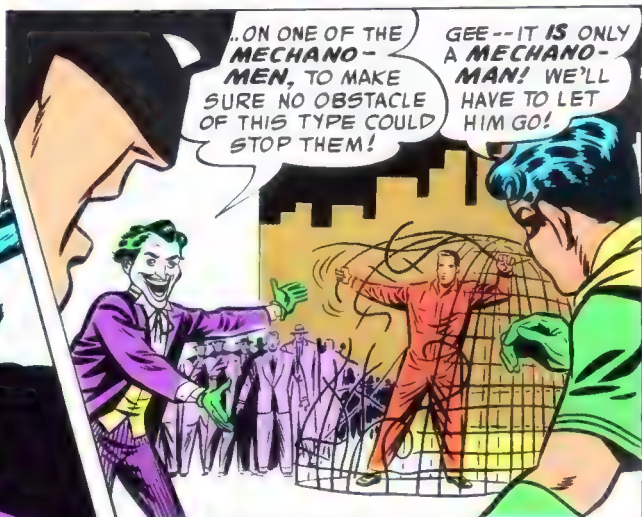






SAME OLD JOKER! JUST AS I FIGURED, YOU HAD NO INTENTION OF GOING STRAIGHT!

REALLY, BATMAN-- HA, HA, HA, HA-- THIS IS AN UNWARRANTED INTRUSION! I WAS ONLY PERFORMING A TEST...



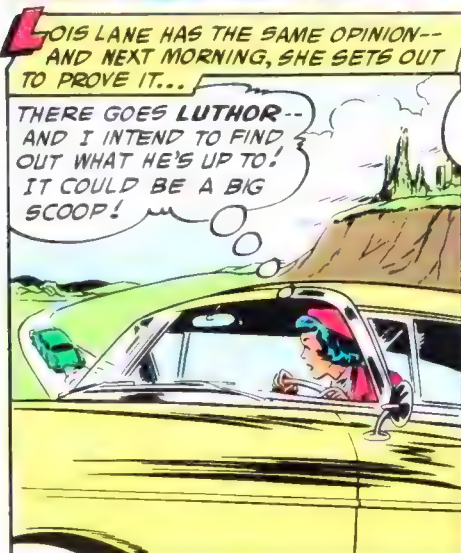
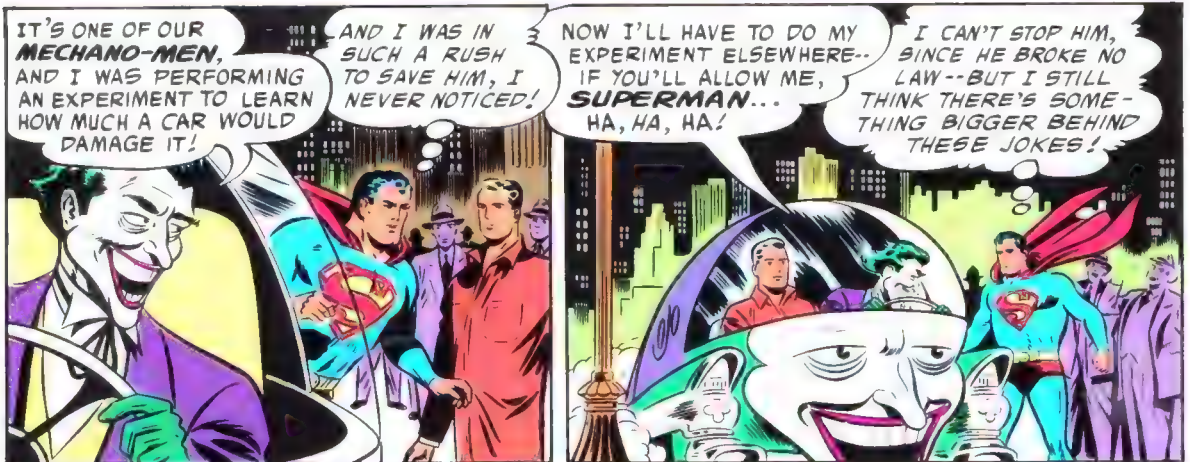
AND NOW I HAVE MORE WORK TO DO! I'LL BE SEEING YOU, BATMAN... HC, HO, HO!

THAT STUNT WAS STAGED DELIBERATELY, TO MAKE US LOOK FOOLISH! HE'S GOT SOMETHING UP HIS SLEEVE... BUT WHAT?



YET THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING--FOR AWHILE LATER, AS SUPERMAN TAKES OVER THE PATROL...



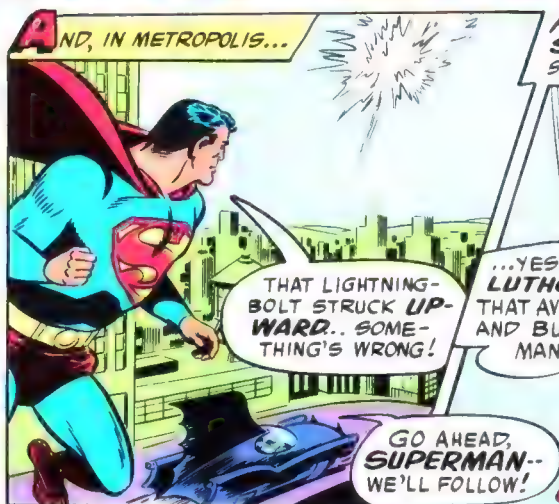
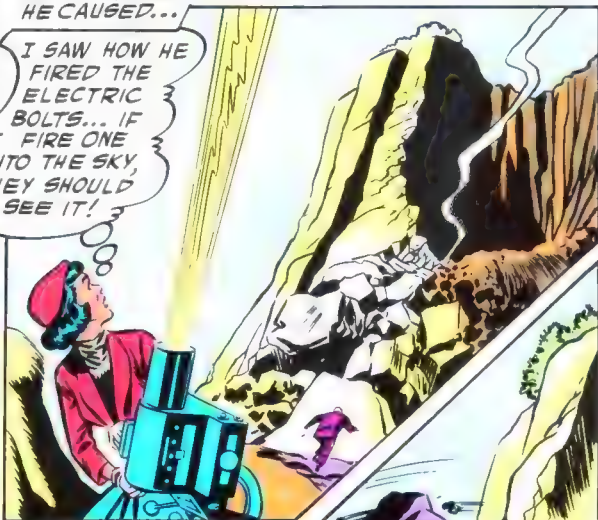




OH, DEAR!
HE DID IT TO BRING
DOWN AN AVALANCHE
ON THAT MAN! I'VE
GOT TO CALL
SUPERMAN
AND **BATMAN**,
TO RESCUE
HIM...

As **LUTHOR** GOES TO EXAMINE THE DESTRUCTION
HE CAUSED...

I SAW HOW HE
FIRED THE
ELECTRIC
BOLTS... IF
I FIRE ONE
INTO THE SKY,
THEY SHOULD
SEE IT!



AND, IN METROPOLIS...

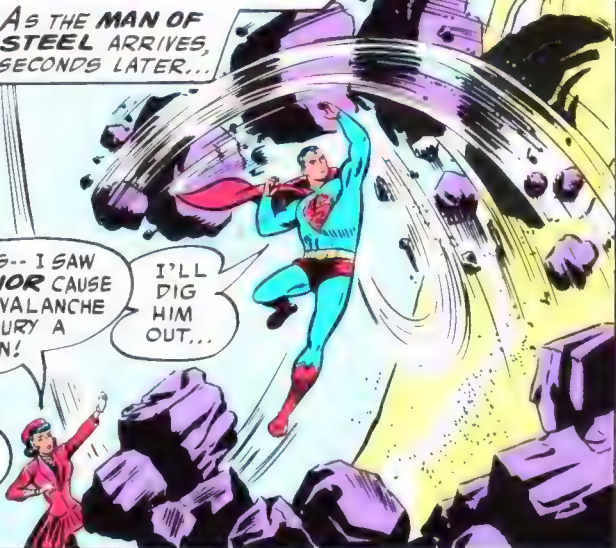
THAT LIGHTNING-
BOLT STRUCK UP-
WARD... SOME-
THING'S WRONG!

As the MAN OF
STEEL ARRIVES,
SECONDS LATER...

...YES-- I SAW
LUTHOR CAUSE
THAT AVALANCHE
AND BURY A
MAN!

I'LL
DIG
HIM
OUT...

GO AHEAD,
SUPERMAN--
WE'LL FOLLOW!



But, AFTER A SUPER-FAST
RESCUE...

WHY... IT'S ANOTHER
OF THESE METAL
**MECHANO-
MEN!**

OF COURSE! I WAS MERELY
TESTING ITS RESISTANCE TO
PRESSURE! YOU'LL SIMPLY HAVE
TO STOP THIS CONSTANT INTER-
FERENCE WITH OUR BUSINESS!



As **LUTHOR** DRIVES OFF...

LOIS, I'VE
SOMETHING TO
SAY TO YOU!

DON'T
BOTHER... I
KNOW WHAT
YOU'RE THINKING!
I--I'LL STOP
BUTTING IN,
FROM NOW
ON!





GOOD... THAT'LL KEEP HER OUT OF TROUBLE! OF COURSE, IT WASN'T REALLY HER FAULT...THE **MECHANOMEN** FOOLED US, TOO!

LUTHOR'S INGENUOUS INVENTION, AND **THE JOKER'S** WARPED SENSE OF HUMOR, ARE MAKING US **ALL** LOOK A BIT FOOLISH!

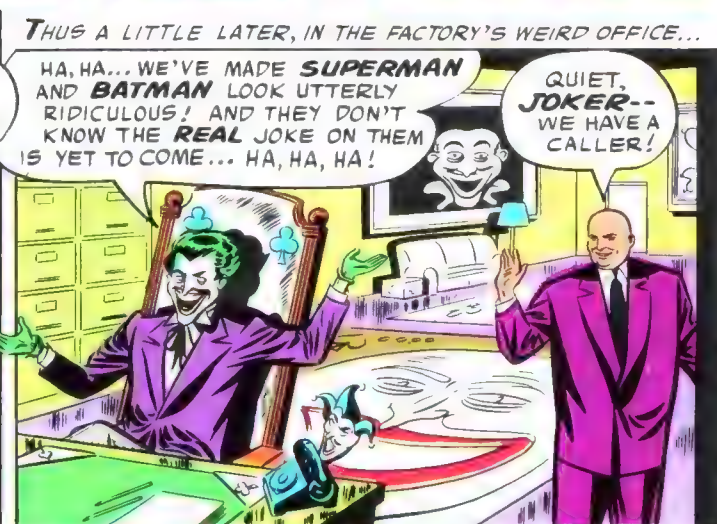


THEY MUST BE PULLING THESE TRICKS SO WE WON'T BOTHER THEM ANY MORE... THEN THEY CAN TRY A BIG CRIME!

BUT WHAT ARE THEY PLANNING? IF I COULD SEE INSIDE THEIR FACTORY, I MIGHT FIND OUT... BUT I CAN'T!



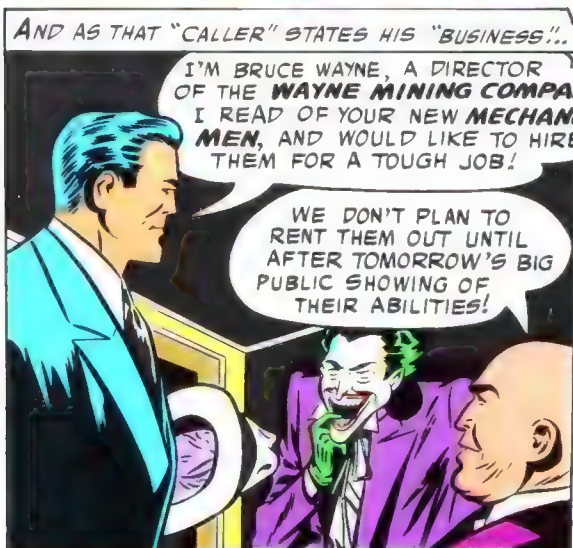
MAYBE YOU CAN, **SUPERMAN**... I JUST GOT AN IDEA! THOSE TWO WOULDN'T ALLOW US PAST THE DOOR OF THEIR FACTORY... BUT WHAT ABOUT WEALTHY **BRUCE WAYNE**? THEY'VE NO REASON TO SUSPECT **HIM**!



THUS A LITTLE LATER, IN THE FACTORY'S WEIRD OFFICE...

HA, HA... WE'VE MADE **SUPERMAN** AND **BATMAN** LOOK UTTERLY RIDICULOUS! AND THEY DON'T KNOW THE **REAL** JOKE ON THEM IS YET TO COME... HA, HA, HA!

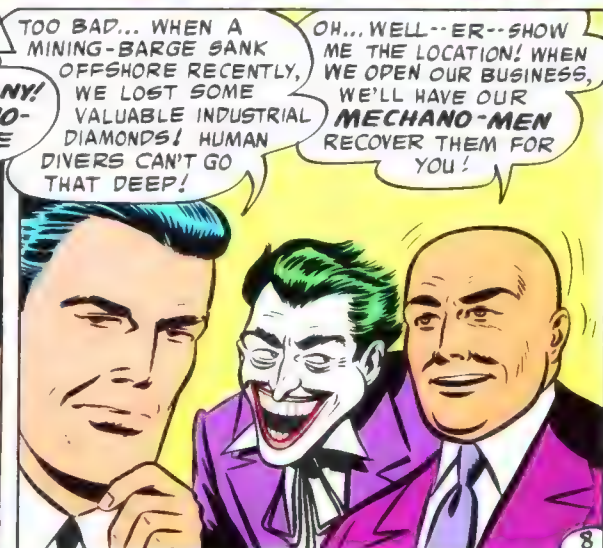
QUIET, **JOKER**-- WE HAVE A CALLER!



AND AS THAT "CALLER" STATES HIS "BUSINESS"...

I'M **BRUCE WAYNE**, A DIRECTOR OF THE **WAYNE MINING COMPANY**! I READ OF YOUR NEW **MECHANOMEN**, AND WOULD LIKE TO HIRE THEM FOR A TOUGH JOB!

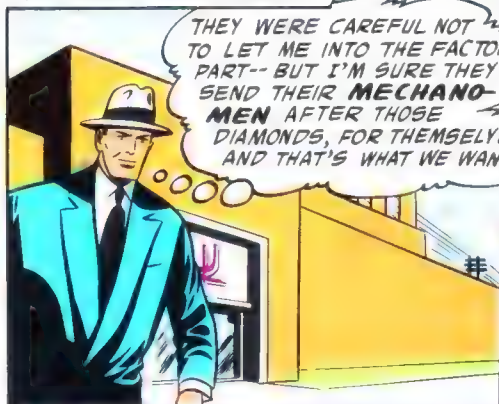
WE DON'T PLAN TO RENT THEM OUT UNTIL AFTER TOMORROW'S BIG PUBLIC SHOWING OF THEIR ABILITIES!



TOO BAD... WHEN A MINING-BARGE SANK OFFSHORE RECENTLY, WE LOST SOME VALUABLE INDUSTRIAL DIAMONDS! HUMAN DIVERS CAN'T GO THAT DEEP!

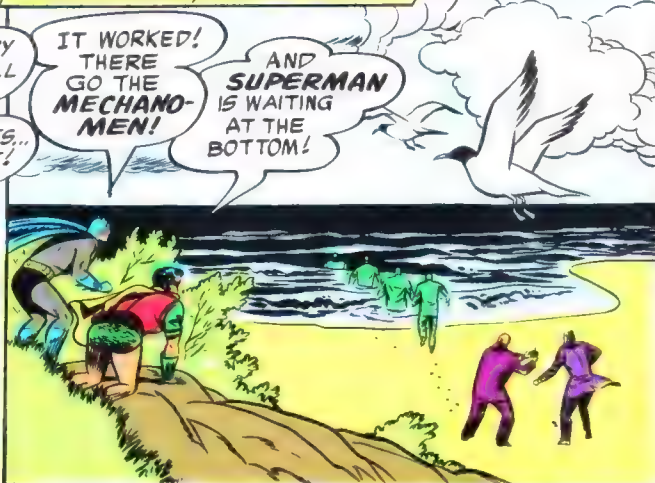
OH... WELL--ER--SHOW ME THE LOCATION! WHEN WE OPEN OUR BUSINESS, WE'LL HAVE OUR **MECHANOMEN** RECOVER THEM FOR YOU!

AND WHEN BRUCE LEAVES...



THEY WERE CAREFUL NOT TO LET ME INTO THE FACTORY PART-- BUT I'M SURE THEY'LL SEND THEIR **MECHANOMEN** AFTER THOSE DIAMONDS, FOR THEMSELVES... AND THAT'S WHAT WE WANT!

SURE ENOUGH, WITHIN AN HOUR...



IT WORKED! THERE GO THE **MECHANOMEN**!

AND **SUPERMAN** IS WAITING AT THE BOTTOM!

BUT THE **MAN OF STEEL**, TO WHOM GREAT DEPTHS ARE NOTHING, WAITS IN **DISGUISE**...



ONE OF THOSE HEAVY METAL **MECHANOMEN** IS BOUND TO MIRE DOWN IN THE MUD BANKS AROUND HERE...

AND WHEN THAT HAPPENS...

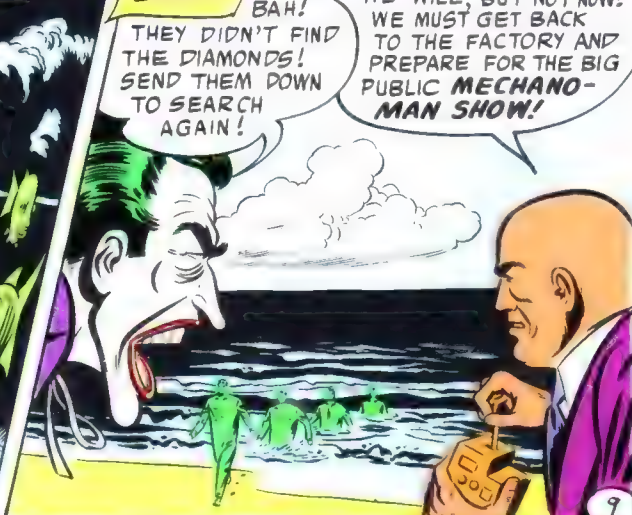


LUCKY THEY'RE ONLY MACHINES... THEY CAN'T KNOW I'M REPLACING ONE OF THEM! AND NEITHER WILL **LUTHOR** AND THE **JOKER**, IF I'M CAREFUL!



LUTHOR IS USING REMOTE-CONTROL TO MAKE THEM HUNT OVER THE SEA-BOTTOM, BUT THEY'LL FIND NOTHING! AH... NOW HE'S BUZZING THEM TO COME BACK UP!

SOON...

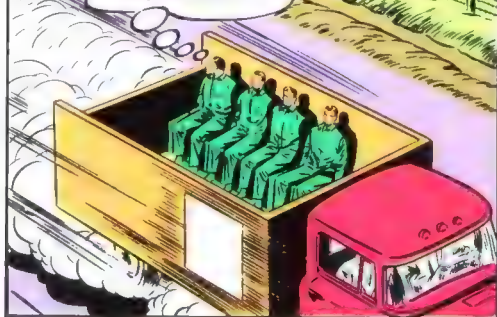


BAH! THEY DIDN'T FIND THE DIAMONDS! SEND THEM DOWN TO SEARCH AGAIN!

WE WILL, BUT NOT NOW! WE MUST GET BACK TO THE FACTORY AND PREPARE FOR THE BIG PUBLIC **MECHANOMAN SHOW**!

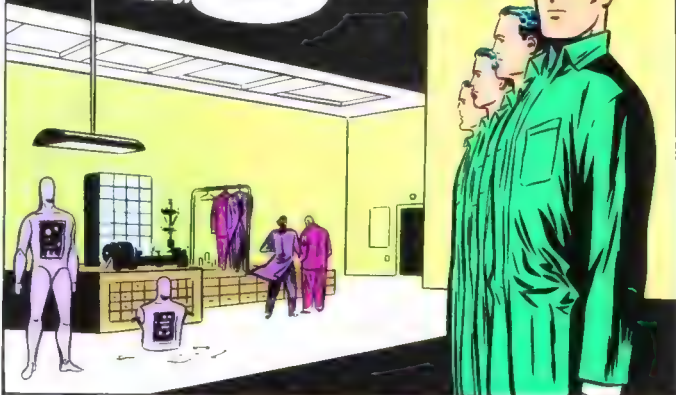
AND AS A FAST TRUCK SPEEDS BACK TO METROPOLIS...

WITH **TELESCOPIC VISION**, I CAN SEE THE **BATMOBILE** FOLLOWING! NOW, WITH ANY LUCK, I'LL GET INSIDE THAT FACTORY AND FIND OUT WHAT THEY'RE PLANNING!



PRESENTLY, IN THE PLANT...

THERE'S NOTHING HERE TO SHOW WHAT THEY'RE UP TO! NO BIG CRIME-MACHINES, LIKE **LUTHOR** HAS MADE IN THE PAST...



BUT JUST THEN...

EH--? ONE OF THE **MECHANO-MEN** MOVED HIS HEAD, LOOKING AROUND! I GLIMPSED IT AS I TURNED!

BUT I DIDN'T TOUCH THE CONTROLS! HMM... ONE OF THEM COULD BE AN IMPOSTOR! WE'D BETTER FIND OUT...



AND AFTER TESTING THE HUMAN-LIKE MACHINES, ONE BY ONE... THE OTHER **MECHANO-MEN** ARE JUST METAL--AND THIS ONE IS, TOO! OTHERWISE, THE Mallet WOULD AFFECT IT!

YES, EVEN THIS DRILL DOESN'T MARK HIM! I GUESS I WAS MISTAKEN, AFTER ALL!



BUT, ONCE ALONE IN THEIR OFFICE...

THIS SPECIAL DRILL COULD DENT ANY METAL, BUT IT DIDN'T DENT **HIM**! THAT MEANS IT'S **SUPERMAN**, DISGUISED!

DON'T LET ON WE KNOW IT! I'VE GOT A SCHEME!



LATER...

NOW'S THE TIME TO TAKE THE **MECHANO-MEN** AND CARRY OUT OUR PLAN OF ACTION!

AND **BATMAN** **ROBIN** AND I WILL BE THERE TO STOP THEIR PLANS!



AFTERWARD, IN AN ALLEY BEHIND SOME OFFICE BUILDINGS...

THEY'LL SMASH INTO THE BUILDING FAST!

AND THEY CAN EASILY CARRY OUT THAT SAFE!



A BRUPTLY...

SO THAT'S IT! WE'VE GOT YOU COLD THIS TIME, FOR ROBBERY!

WHY, IT'S **SUPERMAN**... AND **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**! BUT YOU'VE NO RIGHT TO STOP US!

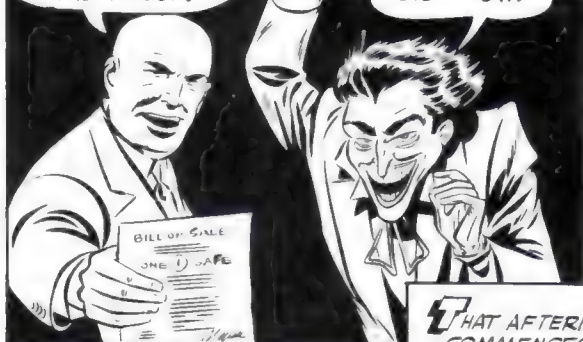


WE JUST **BOUGHT** THAT SAFE FOR OUR OFFICE, AND GOT PERMISSION TO OPEN THE WALL TO GET IT OUT! HERE'S THE PROOF!

AND NOW-- HA, HA-- IF YOU'LL LET TWO HONEST BUSINESSMEN ALONE, WE'LL GO BACK AND GET READY FOR OUR BIG SHOW!

THEY MUST'VE SEEN THROUGH MY DISGUISE, AND SET UP THIS STUNT TO MAKE US LOOK BAD AGAIN! I'M AFRAID OUR PLAN BACKFIRED!

AND YOU SAW NOTHING IN THEIR FACTORY TO INDICATE THEIR REAL PLANS?



THAT AFTERNOON, IN A RENTED STADIUM, THE BIG EXHIBITION COMMENCES...

WAIT A MINUTE... THE EXTRA CLOTHES I SAW HANGING THERE MAY BE A CLUE TO THEIR PLANS! IT WOULD TIE IN WITH THIS BIG **MECHANO-MAN SHOW** THEY'RE STAGING!



THEIR **MECHANO-MEN** SHOULD MAKE THEM A FORTUNE!

I GUESS **SUPERMAN** AND **BATMAN** ARE STILL SUSPICIOUS... THERE THEY ARE, WATCHING EVERYTHING!



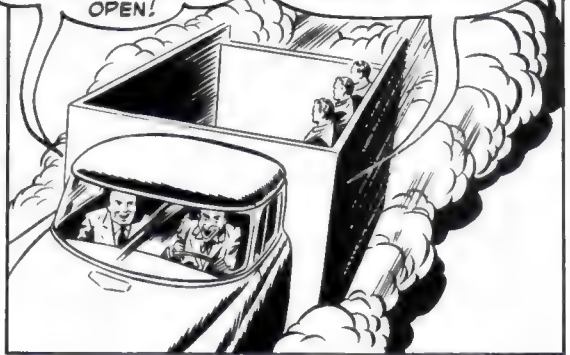
BUT AT THIS VERY MOMENT, BACK IN THE FACTORY...

YES, **BATMAN** AND **SUPERMAN** ARE THERE, WATCHING "US!" THEY'RE COMPLETELY FOOLED!

RIGHT... HA, HA... THEY DON'T REALIZE THE "LUTHOR" AND "JOKER" IN THE STADIUM ARE DISGUISED **MECHANO-MEN**! HO, HO, HO... THIS IS THE GREATEST JOKE OF MY CAREER!

WHILE OUR MECHANICAL DOUBLES KEEP THEM OCCUPIED, WE'LL USE OUR OTHER **MECHANO-MEN** TO CRACK THE SUB-TREASURY WIDE OPEN!

I'D LIKE-- HA, HA-- TO SEE **BATMAN** AND **SUPERMAN'S** FACES, WHEN THEY FIND WE'RE NOT REALLY AT THE STADIUM AT ALL!



MINUTES LATER, AS THE **MECHANO-MEN** BURST INTO A GUARDED TREASURE-HOUSE...



THEY CAN TEAR THE VAULTS OPEN-- AND BULLETS CAN'T STOP THEM!

BUT MAYBE **WE** CAN!

NO-- IT CAN'T BE! YOU'RE AT THE STADIUM-- WE SAW YOU!

NO, THE "SUPERMAN" AND "BATMAN" THERE ARE PHONIES, TOO! I GUESSED YOUR PLAN FROM THE EXTRA **LUTHOR** AND **JOKER** CLOTHES IN YOUR FACTORY-- SO I MADE TWO **MECHANO-MEN** TO APPEAR THERE, AND WE WATCHED **YOU**!



NOW-- A LITTLE WESTERN-STYLE ROPING, TO ROUND UP THESE **MECHANO-MEN** OF YOURS!

WE'LL TAKE CARE OF **LUTHOR** AND **THE JOKER**... WE'RE GOING TO SET THEM UP IN A **NEW PARTNERSHIP**!



AND AS THE PARTNERS OCCUPY THEIR NEW PLACE OF "BUSINESS"...

THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT, YOU GRINNING CLOWN!

GOON! YOU AND YOUR SO-CALLED BRILLIANT BRAIN...

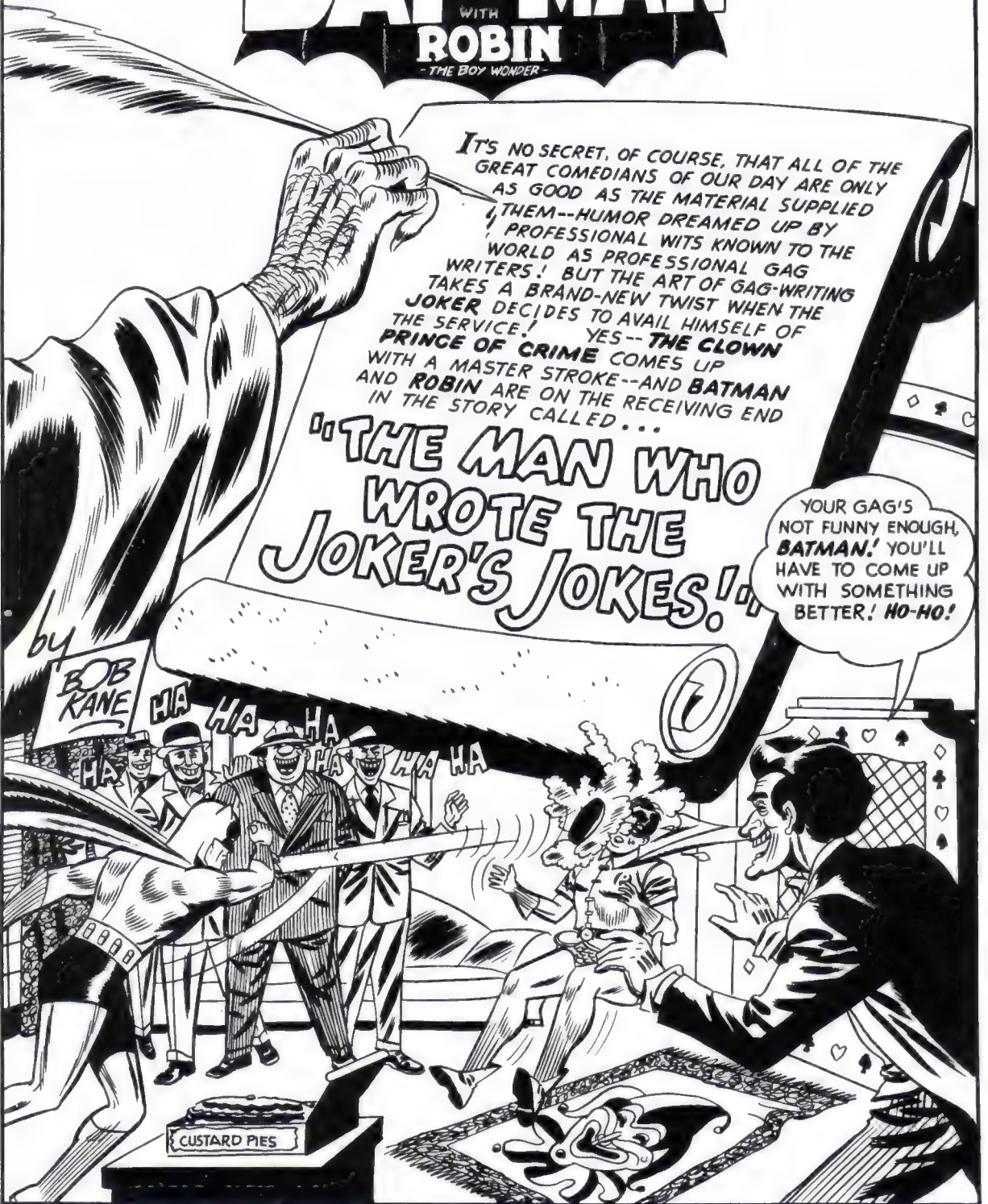
NOW-NOW BOYS... GOOD PARTNERS, I MEAN, CELLMATES-- SHOULD NEVER ARGUE!



THE END

BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -



ONE NIGHT, IN THE HIDEOUT OF THE **JOKER**, THAT FANTASTIC CLOWN OF CRIME...

THREE WEEKS... AND NO SUCCESSES! COULD IT BE I'M GOING STALE?

THE BOSS IS IN A BAD WAY! HE HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO DREAM UP A GOOD CRIME LATELY!



TELEVISION, RADIO, MOVIE COMICS -- **BAH!** NONE OF THEM IS MY EQUAL AS A CLOWN--YET **THEY** NEVER SEEM TO RUN OUT OF IDEAS!!



SUDDENLY, A REALIZATION DAWNS ON THE **JOKER**...

OF COURSE! THESE COMICS NEVER RUN OUT OF MATERIAL BECAUSE THEY PAY GOOD MONEY TO **GET IT!** THEY USE **GAG WRITERS!**

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, **JOKER?**



IT'S A SPECIAL PROFESSION--WRITERS WHO DO NOTHING ELSE BUT COIN HUMOR! I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT I MEAN TOMORROW! **HA-HA!** IT'S GIVING ME A WONDERFUL IDEA!



NEXT DAY, AS THE **JOKER** AND HIS MEN POSE AS WINDOW WASHERS AT A RADIO STUDIO...

ALL RIGHT--LET'S HEAR THE GAGS YOU'VE GOT FOR MY SHOW NEXT WEEK! C'MON, NOW--I NEED SOME GOOD ONES!

(WHISPER) THAT'S MARV BLACK, THE FAMOUS RADIO COMEDIAN. HE PAYS THOSE WRITERS A FORTUNE TO MAKE HIM SOUND FUNNY ON THE AIR!

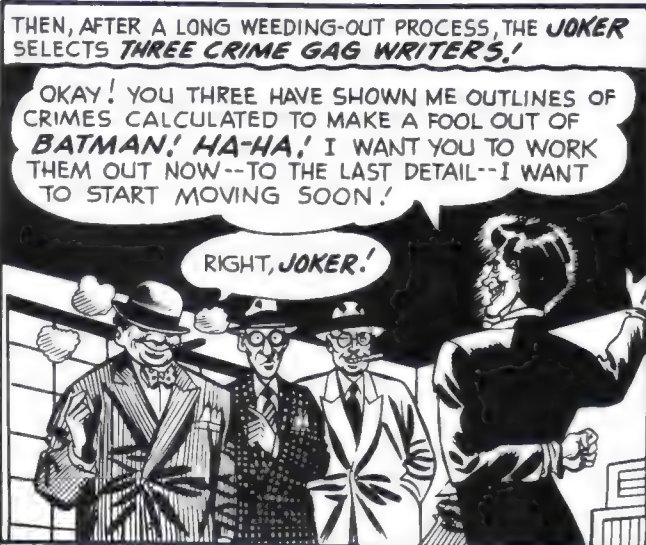


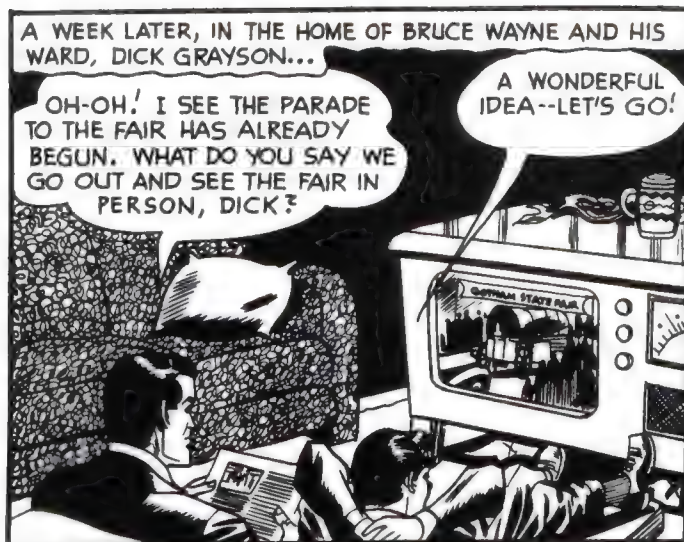
WE'VE GOT A BASEBALL ROUTINE FIGURED OUT FOR YOU, MARV--WAIT TILL YOU HEAR IT!

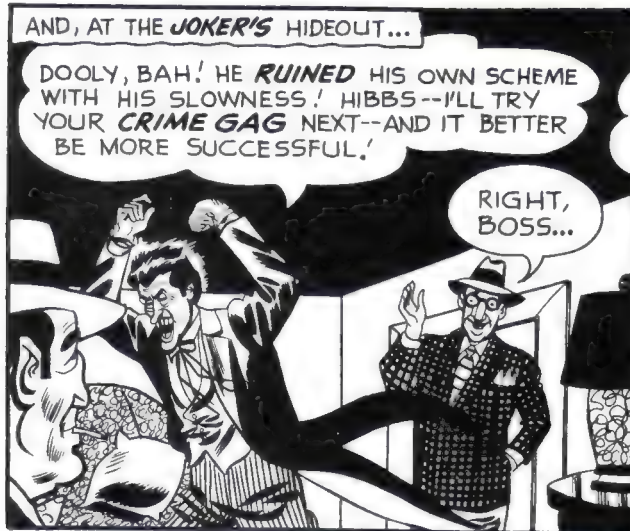
HA-HA! WHAT THESE COMICS DO, I-- **THE JOKER**-- CAN DO, TOO! I SHALL HIRE **GAG WRITERS** --TO DREAM UP CRIMES FOR ME! **HA-HA!**



SOON, THE WORD SPREADS THROUGH THE UNDERWORLD...







A FEW DAYS LATER, IN POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...

A NOTE FROM THE JOKER! HE BOASTS HE'S LITERALLY GOING TO MAKE A JACKASS OUT OF YOU!

DO YOU THINK HE CAN, BATMAN? IT WOULDN'T HELP OUR STANDING IN GOTHAM CITY!

THAT EVENING, AS OFFICIALS OF THE ROYAL CAMERA CO. HOLD AN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN THEIR OFFICES...

HOW ABOUT SOME PICTURES, GENTLEMEN? WE WERE SENT HERE BY THE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE...

EXCELLENT IDEA! AND I SEE YOU HAVE ROYAL CAMERAS! HA-HA-- MOST FITTING!



ALL AT ONCE...

HA-HA! ROYAL CAMERAS-- BUT WITH MY OWN ATTACHMENT THAT SHOOTS GAS! NO-NO! NOSE FILTERS PROTECT ME AND MY MEN!

THE JOKER!! (GASP!)



THEN, AFTER THE JOKER AND HIS MEN LOOT THE SAFE...

BUT WE GOT THE LOOT! WHY TRIP THE BURGLAR ALARM, JOKER?

LEAVE HIBBS ALONE! THIS IS HIS CRIME SCHEME! HA-HA! WE WANT OUR FRIENDS BATMAN AND ROBIN TO SHOW UP!



THEN, AFTER BATMAN AND ROBIN APPEAR...

LOOK OUT, ROBIN! THIS IS AN INFERNO-- THE FILM HAS CAUGHT ON FIRE, AND NOTHING BURNS LIKE FILM!

BUT HOW WILL WE EVER GET OUT??



AM I MAKING IT TOO HOT FOR YOU, BATMAN? HO-HO! I WOULDN'T WANT YOU TO FRY--HERE'S SOME FIREPROOF CLOTHING FOR YOU!

THE JOKER! THIS IS HIS DOING!



IT'S ASBESTOS, ALL RIGHT-- BUT THEY'RE JACKASS COSTUMES! WHAT WILL WE DO?

WE HAVE NO CHOICE! WE WEAR THE COSTUMES-- IT'S THE ONLY WAY OUT OF HERE!



AND AS THE LAWMEN MAKE THEIR WAY
OUT OF THE BLAZING BUILDING...

ROBIN, LISTEN! THE
JOKER WOULDN'T MISS OUR
APPEARANCE IN THESE COSTUMES
FOR ANYTHING! KEEP YOUR EYES
PEELED WHEN WE GET OUT!

RIGHT!

LOOK!
BATMAN AND
ROBIN--A COUPLE OF
JACKASSES! THE
JOKER MADE HIS
BOAST GOOD!

ROBIN--I WAS
RIGHT! THERE'S THE
JOKER--ON THE ROOF
ACROSS THE STREET!
LET'S MOVE!

MOVING LIKE THE WIND, THE DYNAMIC DUO RACES TO
THE ROOF. IN HIS HASTE TO ESCAPE, **HIBBS** STUMBLES!

TOO LATE TO
GET THE **JOKER**--
WE'LL HAVE TO
SETTLE FOR THIS
CHARACTER!

AND DON'T
FORGET THE LOOT!
WE'VE SAVED IT
AGAIN!

NEXT DAY...

GOTHAM GAZETTE
**JOKER MAKES JACKASS OUT
OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!**

BUT LAWMEN
AGAIN HAVE
LAST LAUGH
BY RECOVERING
LOOT OF LATEST
THEFT!

BATMAN AND ROBIN

AND IN THE **JOKER'S** HIDEOUT...

JOKER--YOUR THIRD
GAG WRITER **QUIT**--
AFTER HE SAW WHAT
HAPPENED TO THE
FIRST TWO!

BAH! RANK
AMATEURS--THAT'S
WHAT THEY ARE! I
I SHOULD NEVER
HAVE TRUSTED THEM!
I NEED A **CLEVER**
IDEA MAN--**CLEVER**
--**CLEVER!**

ABRUPTLY, AS A FANTASTIC IDEA COMES TO
THE HARLEQUIN OF HATE...

I HAVE IT! HO-HO! THE
VERY MAN FOR ME! WHO'S
MORE **CLEVER** THAN **BATMAN**?
HO-HO! HE SHALL BE MY GAG
WRITER--**HO-HO!** IMAGINE--
BATMAN AS MY IDEA
MAN! **HO-HO-HO!**

HOW IN
THE WORLD
IS THE
BOSS EVER
GONNA
WORK
THAT??

NEXT DAY, A STRANGE AD RUNS IN A GOTHAM CITY PAPER...

NOTICE!!
TO ALL PROSPECTIVE CRIME GAG WRITERS SEEKING EMPLOYMENT WITH THE JOKER:
MY OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT IS NOW WITHDRAWN, BECAUSE THE JOB WILL SOON BE FILLED BY AN EXTREMELY CAPABLE PERSON. THANK YOU FOR SHOWING AN INTEREST IN MY PROJECT--BUT I HAVE FOUND THE IDEAL MAN FOR MY PURPOSES! HIS NAME IS--
BATMAN! HA-HA! THE JOKER

AND AT POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS...

I DON'T LIKE THIS AT ALL! THE JOKER APPARENTLY HAS SOMETHING UP HIS SLEEVE IN HIS LATEST CAMPAIGN TO MAKE FOOLS OF YOU!

WELL--SO FAR HE'S FAILED--WE'VE THWARTED HIS CRIMES! MAYBE NEXT TIME WE'LL CATCH HIM AND PUT AN END TO THIS!



A FEW NIGHTS LATER, AT THE GOTHAM STATE FAIR...

THE JOKER, BATMAN! HE'S GONE INTO THE TUNNEL OF LOVE!

YOU WATCH THE ENTRANCE, ROBIN! I'LL GET OVER TO THE EXIT, AND COME IN THAT WAY. AND BE CAREFUL--THIS COULD BE A TRAP!



MEANWHILE...

HA-HA! I THOUGHT THEY'D SPLIT UP! NOW FOR MY LITTLE GAME--QUICK, I MUST CHANGE MY UNIFORM!



A MOMENT LATER...

BOO-HOO! BOO-HOO! MY BALLOON! THE WIND BLEW IT AWAY FROM ME! BOO-HOO! (SOB.)

DON'T CRY, SONNY--I'LL GET YOUR BALLOON BACK FOR YOU!

I KNOW HOW THAT POOR KID FEELS--IT'LL ONLY TAKE A SECOND FOR ME TO RETRIEVE HIS BALLOON...

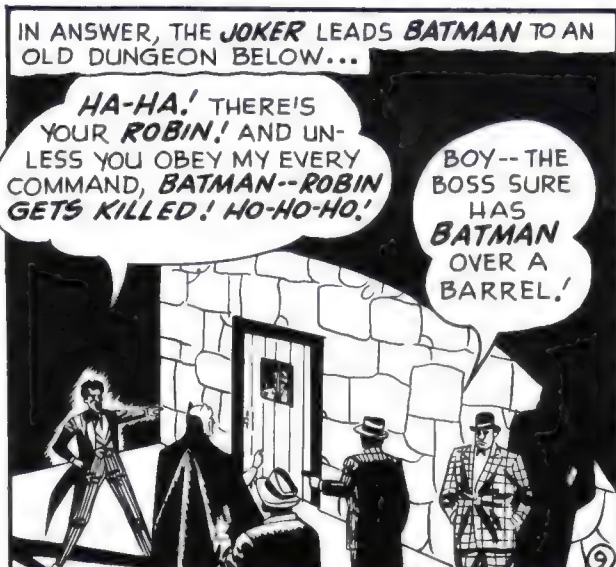
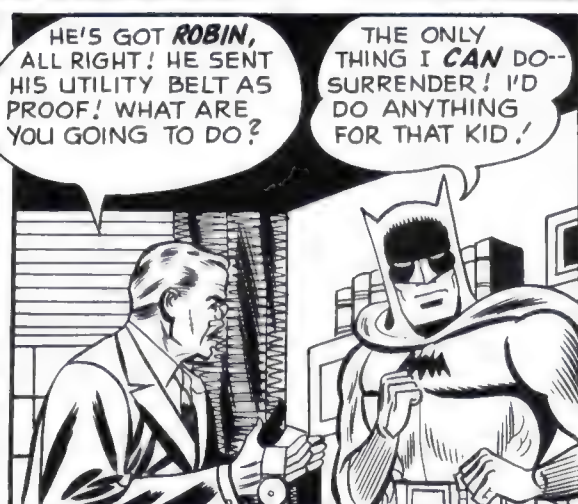


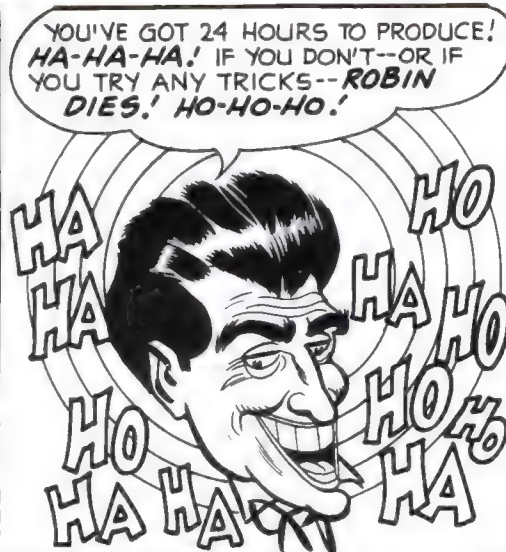
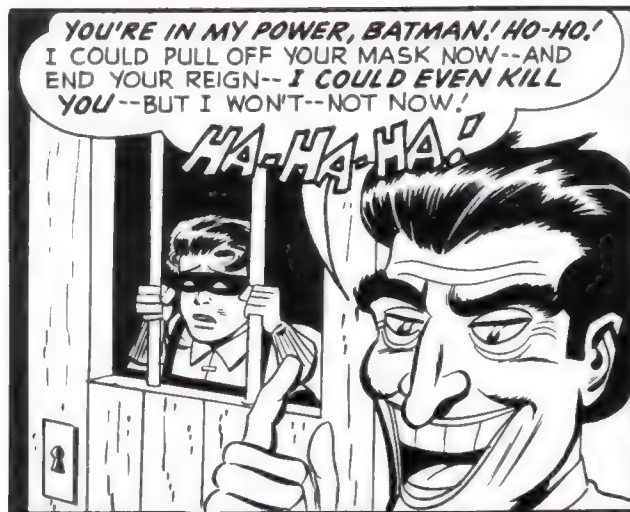
THEN, AS THE BALLOON SCUDS AROUND A CORNER...

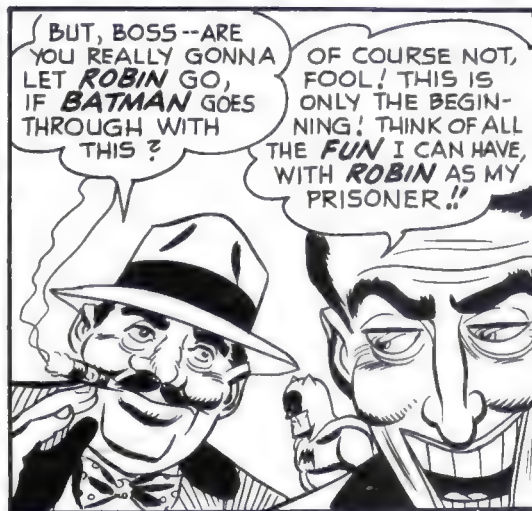
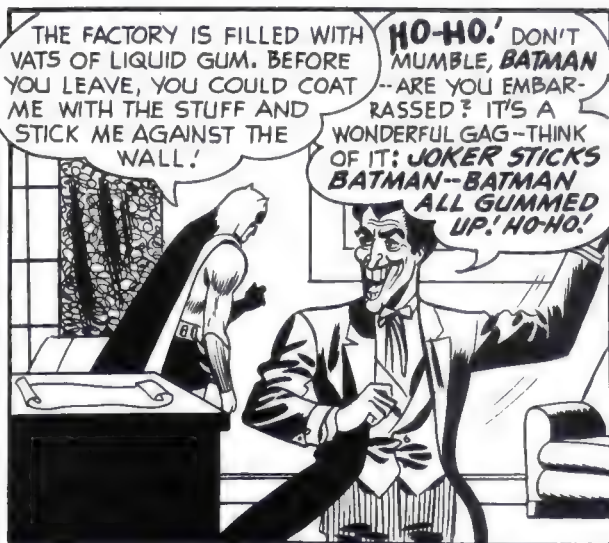
TRICKED--BY THE JOKER!

YES! HA-HA! AN IMPERSONATOR IN THE TUNNEL--A MIDGET DRESSED UP A A KID--AND THIS BALLOON ON THE END OF A STRING! HO-HO! I'VE GOT YOU NOW, ROBIN!

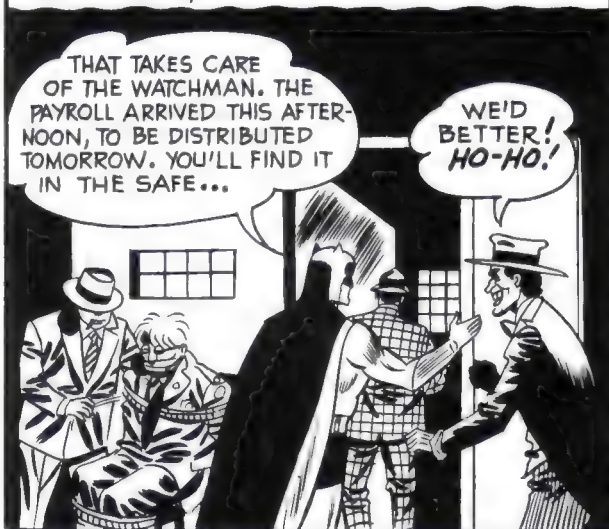


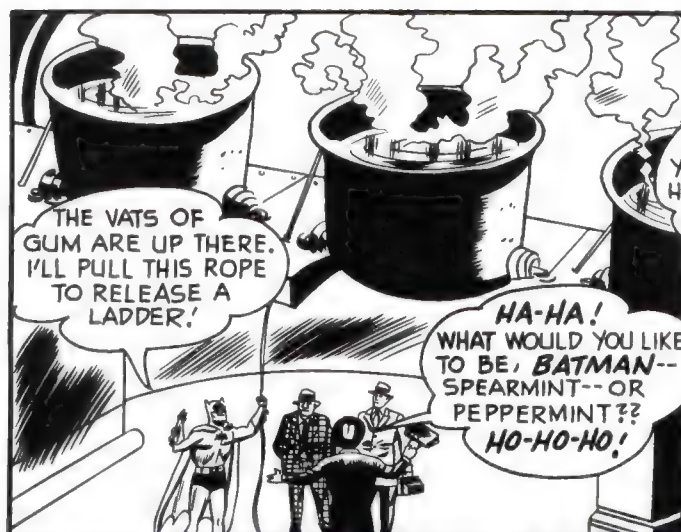






THAT EVENING, AT THE CHEWING GUM FACTORY...





THE VATS OF GUM ARE UP THERE. I'LL PULL THIS ROPE TO RELEASE A LADDER!

HA-HA! WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE, BATMAN-- SPEARMINT-- OR PEPPERMINT?? HO-HO-HO!

ALL AT ONCE, AS **BATMAN** YANKS HARD ON THE ROPE...

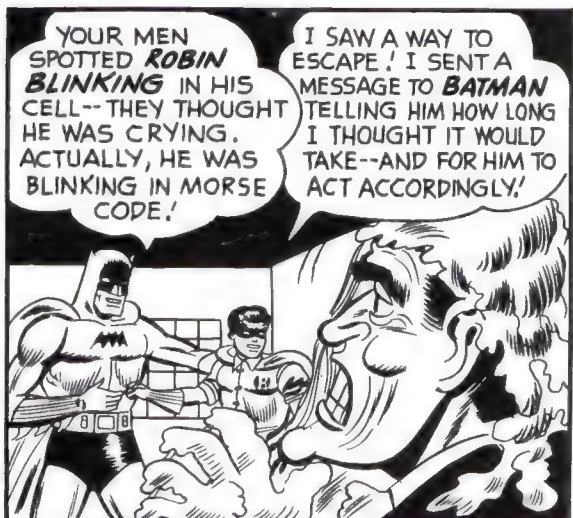
A LITTLE THING I HAD RIGGED UP FOR YOU, **JOKER**! NOW-- HOW DO YOU LIKE BEING ALL GUMMED UP?

UGH! (GASP) YOU FOOL, **BATMAN**! WHEN MY MEN BACK AT THE HIDEOUT HEAR OF THIS, THEY'LL KILL ROBIN!!



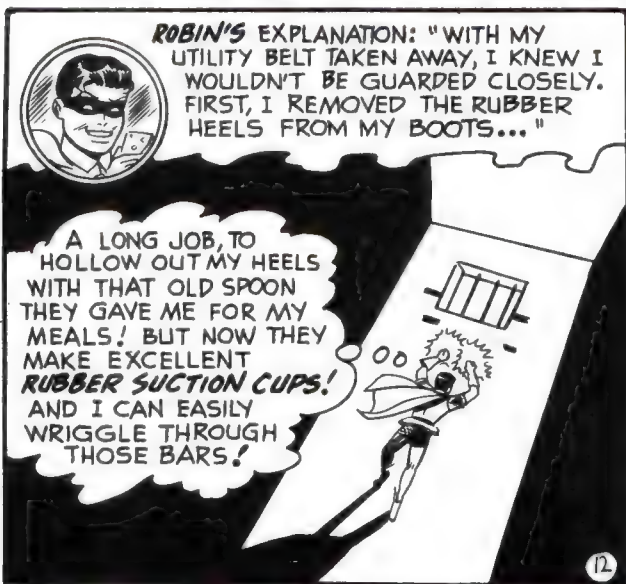
THAT I DOUBT--SINCE HERE COMES **ROBIN** NOW--AND THE POLICE HAVE PICKED UP THE REST OF YOUR MEN!

BUT--BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND!



YOUR MEN SPOTTED **ROBIN** BLINKING IN HIS CELL--THEY THOUGHT HE WAS CRYING. ACTUALLY, HE WAS BLINKING IN MORSE CODE!

I SAW A WAY TO ESCAPE! I SENT A MESSAGE TO **BATMAN** TELLING HIM HOW LONG I THOUGHT IT WOULD TAKE--AND FOR HIM TO ACT ACCORDINGLY!



ROBIN'S EXPLANATION: "WITH MY UTILITY BELT TAKEN AWAY, I KNEW I WOULDN'T BE GUARDED CLOSELY. FIRST, I REMOVED THE RUBBER HEELS FROM MY BOOTS..."

A LONG JOB, TO HOLLOW OUT MY HEELS WITH THAT OLD SPOON THEY GAVE ME FOR MY MEALS! BUT NOW THEY MAKE EXCELLENT **RUBBER SUCTION CUPS**! AND I CAN EASILY WRIGGLE THROUGH THOSE BARS!

LATER, IN THE **BAT-CAVE**...

SAAAY! THESE JACKASS COSTUMES GIVE ME AN IDEA FOR A JOKE WE CAN PLAY ON OUR BUTLER, ALFRED!

WAIT A MINUTE, **ROBIN**! ONE **JOKER** IN GOTHAM CITY IS **PLENTY**!



The END

BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

He's Back! THAT BIZARRE CRIMINAL, THAT MODERN JEKYLL-HYDE, RETURNS WITH HIS DOUBLE-DEALING BANDITRY TO TERRORIZE GOTHAM CITY--AND ONCE AGAIN THE TWO-FISTED **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** COME FACE TO FACE WITH **TWO-FACE!** BUT THERE ARE TWO SIDES TO EVERY STORY, AND ESPECIALLY **TWO-FACE'S** STORY! THEREFORE, YOU WILL BE DOUBLY SURPRISED WHEN YOU READ THE FANTASTIC REASONS FOR...

"THE *NEW* CRIMES of TWO-FACE!"



IN THE REHEARSAL STUDIO OF "**TRUE CRIME TELEVISION PLAYHOUSE**", HOPEFUL ACTORS APPLY TO THE CASTING DIRECTOR...

GENTLEMEN, OUR NEXT PLAY WILL FEATURE THE STORY OF **TWO-FACE!** SOME OF YOU MAY REMEMBER HOW A VIAL OF ACID ONCE SCARRED THE FACE OF OUR EX-DISTRICT ATTORNEY, HARVEY DENT. THE MENTAL SHOCK MADE DENT BECOME A CRIMINAL, UNTIL PLASTIC SURGERY GAVE HIM A NEW FACE AND HELPED HIM TO REFORM.



PAUL SLOANE--YOU'RE HANDSOME AND THE IMAGE OF HARVEY DENT! YOU'LL DO FINE! REMEMBER, STUDY YOUR ROLE--GET INTO THE CHARACTER OF THE MAN YOU'RE PORTRAYING--I WANT YOU TO **LIVE** THE PART.

I WILL, SIR!



ONE WEEK LATER, BACKSTAGE JUST BEFORE CURTAIN TIME...

PLACES, EVERYBODY! LIGHTS--CAMERAS ALL SET? JOE, GOT THAT PROP BOTTLE OF "ACID" READY?

YEAH--I FILLED IT WITH BLUE WATER SO IT'LL LOOK LIKE REAL VITRIOL!



THE CURTAIN RISES--AND ACTORS RECREATE THE SCENE WHEN HARVEY DENT, FIGHTING D.A., WAS PROSECUTING A NOTORIOUS GAMBLER...

YOUR HONOR, **THIS** WAS FOUND ON THE SCENE OF THE CRIME! A **TWO-HEADED** SILVER DOLLAR--"LUCKY" MORONY'S GOOD LUCK PIECE!



THEN, OVER MILLIONS OF TELEVISION SETS...

GOOD EVENING! TONIGHT, "**TRUE CRIME PLAYHOUSE**" BRINGS YOU THE INCREDIBLE STORY OF **TWO-FACE!** AND, AS A PUBLIC SERVICE, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ARE HERE IN **PERSON** TO RECREATE THEIR REAL-LIFE ROLES IN THIS FAMOUS CASE! AND NOW--**ON WITH THE PLAY!**



OH, BOY! **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN!**



I'LL FIX YOU, PRETTY BOY!

LOOK OUT, D.A.! HE'S THROWING ACID!

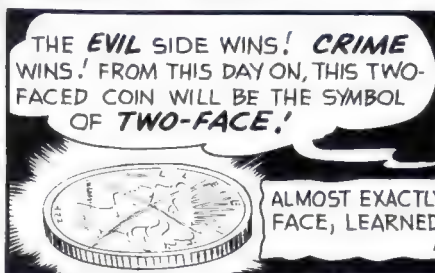
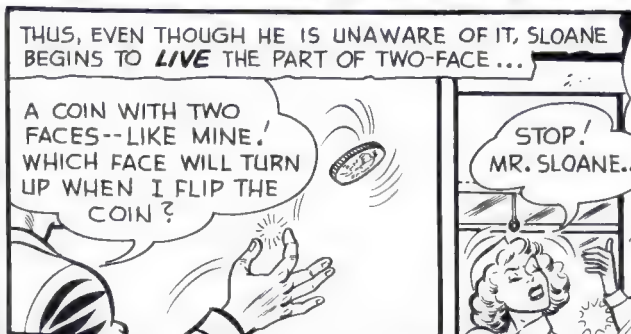
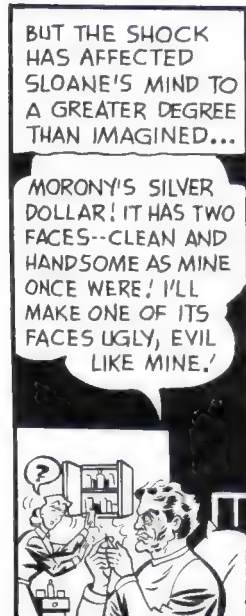
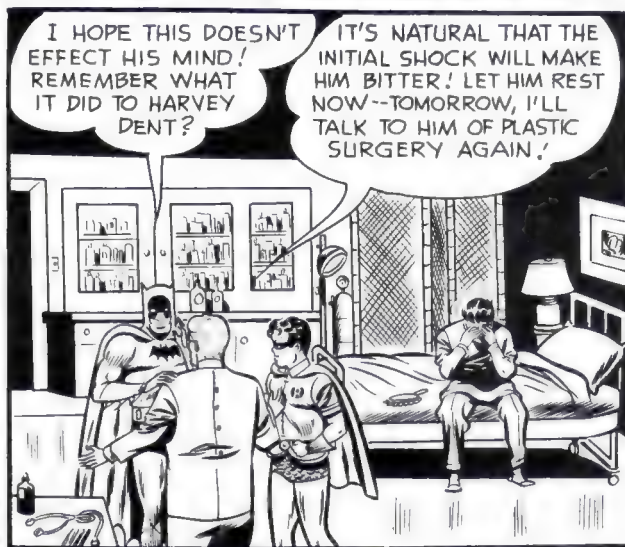
AAGH! MY FACE!



MY FACE--BURNING--OH-H-H!

GREAT SCOTT! SLOANE ISN'T ACTING NOW! THERE WAS **REAL ACID** IN THAT BOTTLE!

JOE--THE PROP MAN! HE'S TRYING TO GET AWAY!



WHEN SHE RECOVERS CONSCIOUSNESS, THE NURSE TELLS OF SLOANE'S MAD ACTIONS...

JUST AS I FEARED! THE FACT THAT HE'S STUDIED HIS "TWO-FACE" ROLE SO LONG--PLUS THE MENTAL SHOCK--HAS MADE SLOANE REALLY BELIEVE HE *IS TWO-FACE*!



HEADLINES SOON SHOUT THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS, WHILE THE *BATMOBILE* CEASELESSLY PATROLS THE STREETS...

GOTHAM GAZETTE
**SECOND TWO-FACE STILL AT LARGE;
POLICE ON LOOKOUT FOR MAD ACTOR**

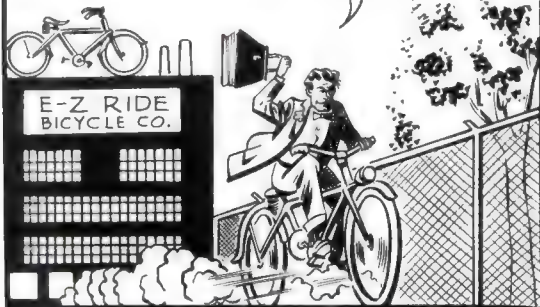


ROBIN, UNDOUBTEDLY SLOANE WILL IMITATE THE KIND OF CRIMES THE ORIGINAL *TWO-FACE* COMMITTED. THEY WERE ALWAYS BASED ON HIS PERSONAL SYMBOL--THE NUMBER *TWO*!



AND AS *BATMAN* HAS PREDICTED, THAT VERY NIGHT *TWO-FACE* SLOANE ROBBS THE SAFE OF A *BICYCLE* COMPANY...

HA-HA! HOW FITTING *TWO-FACE* SHOULD ESCAPE WITH ONE OF THE MANUFACTURER'S *TWO*-WHEELED VEHICLES!



THE NEXT NIGHT, HAVING RECRUITED A HELPER, *TWO-FACE* PLOTS HIS SECOND CRIME.

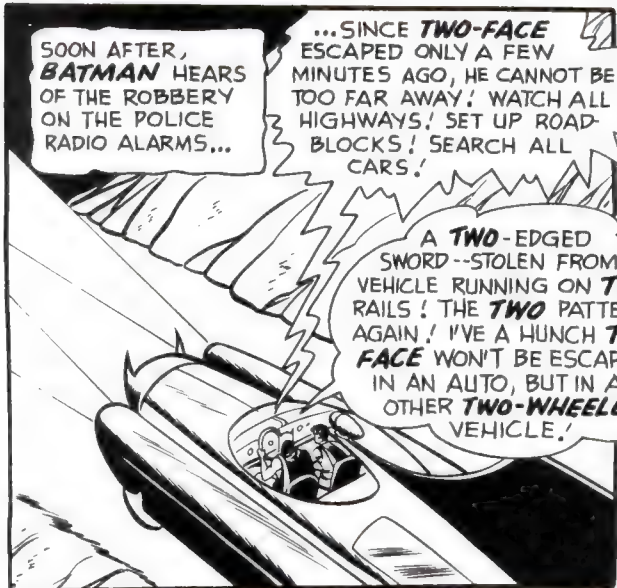
THE MAIL CAR IS CARRYING A SWORD DESTINED FOR THE *GOTHAM MUSEUM*--AN ANCIENT *TWO*-EDGED SWORD, ITS HILT ENCRUSTED WITH GEMS!



SOON AFTER, *BATMAN* HEARS OF THE ROBBERY ON THE POLICE RADIO ALARMS...

...SINCE *TWO-FACE* ESCAPED ONLY A FEW MINUTES AGO, HE CANNOT BE TOO FAR AWAY! WATCH ALL HIGHWAYS! SET UP ROAD-BLOCKS! SEARCH ALL CARS!

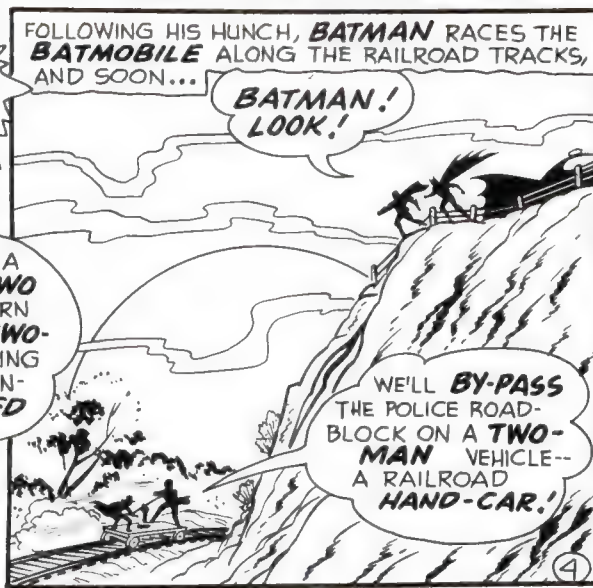
A *TWO*-EDGED SWORD--STOLEN FROM A VEHICLE RUNNING ON *TWO* RAILS! THE *TWO* PATTERN AGAIN! I'VE A HUNCH *TWO-FACE* WON'T BE ESCAPING IN AN AUTO, BUT IN ANOTHER *TWO*-WHEELED VEHICLE!

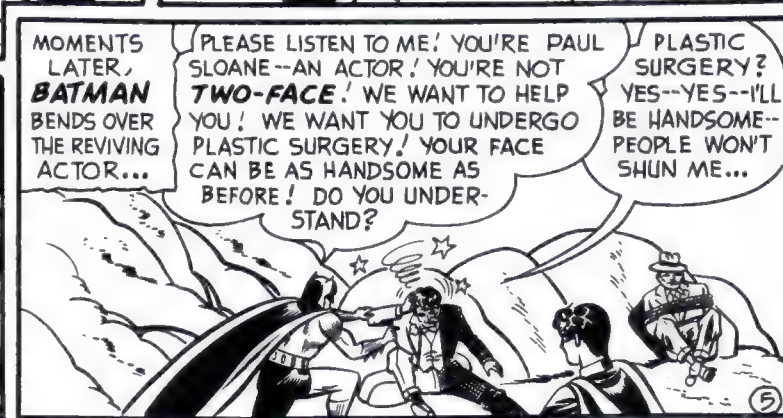
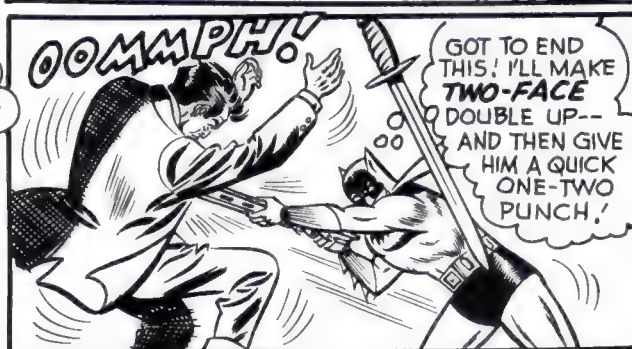
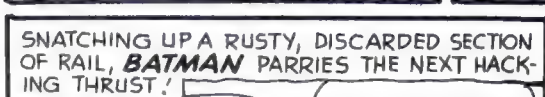
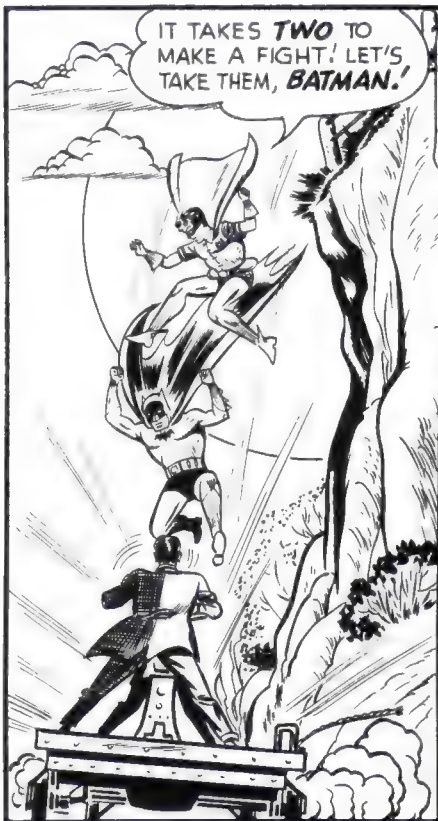


FOLLOWING HIS HUNCH, *BATMAN* RACES THE *BATMOBILE* ALONG THE RAILROAD TRACKS, AND SOON...

**BATMAN!
LOOK!**

WE'LL *BY-PASS* THE POLICE ROAD-BLOCK ON A *TWO-MAN* VEHICLE--A RAILROAD *HAND-CAR*!





RELIEVED BY **TWO-FACE'S** AGREEMENT, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ARE CAUGHT OFF-GUARD BY A TREACHEROUS SURPRISE ATTACK!

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TRUSTED MY WORD! IT'S ONLY NATURAL **TWO-FACE** WOULD **DOUBLE-CROSS** YOU!



WHEN THE MANHUNTERS AWAKEN, IT IS THEY WHO ARE CAPTIVE...

A LOT O' GUYS IN PRISONS ARE GONNA BE GLAD WHEN THEY HEAR I KNOCKED OFF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**!

NO, BINKY! MY **COIN** WILL DECIDE! IF THE GOOD SIDE COMES UP, THEY LIVE--BUT IF THE BAD SIDE COMES UP, THEY **DIE**!



THE COIN SPINS HIGH, DROPS INTO THE PALM--AND IN THAT PALM RESTS THE FATE OF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**!

AGH! THE **GOOD** SIDE WON! BUT YOU DOUBLE-CROSSED 'EM ONCE--WHY DON'T YA DOUBLE-CROSS 'EM AGAIN AND LET ME BUMP 'EM OFF ANYWAY?

TRUE, I'VE GONE BACK ON MY WORD-- BUT **NEVER** AGAINST THE DECISION OF MY COIN! THAT COIN IS MY TRADE-MARK--THE SYMBOL OF **TWO-FACE**!



LATER...

THIS WAS OUR LUCKY DAY! BINKY WOULD'VE SHOT US IF **TWO-FACE** HADN'T STUCK TO HIS COIN'S TOSS!

ROBIN, IT'S JUST POSSIBLE THAT COIN MAY HELP US END THIS ENTIRE CASE!



AS THEY RETURN TO HEADQUARTERS, THEY ARE MET BY AN OLD FRIEND--**HARVEY DENT**, THE EX-D.A. WHO WAS ONCE THE **ORIGINAL TWO-FACE**!

I WAS IN EUROPE WHEN I HEARD ABOUT POOR SLOANE. I JUST FLEW IN, WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

HARVEY, PERHAPS IF SLOANE COULD SEE AND LISTEN TO YOU, IT MIGHT BRING HIM TO HIS SENSES!



THAT VERY NIGHT, ALL TELEVISION NETWORKS ARE GIVEN OVER TO AN EMERGENCY BROADCAST...

SLOANE, WHEREVER YOU ARE, LISTEN TO ME! LOOK AT MY FACE! SEE HOW PLASTIC SURGERY RESTORED MY FEATURES! IT CAN BE THE SAME FOR YOU! YOU'LL BE PAUL SLOANE, THE HANDSOME ACTOR YOU ONCE WERE!

HIS FACE... THE WAY MINE USED TO BE... HANDSOME... UNSCARRED...



WILL THE PLEAS OF THE MAN WHO WAS ONCE **TWO-FACE** HELP REFORM THE **SECOND TWO-FACE**? ⑥

BUT THE BROADCAST HAS THE **REVERSE** EFFECT--FOR IT ONLY INFURIATES THE UNFORTUNATE MAN'S TWISTED THOUGHTS!

BAH! THEY DISGUISED AN ACTOR TO LOOK LIKE ME! THEY'RE TRYING TO **TRICK** ME! THERE IS ONLY **ONE TWO-FACE**--AND I AM HIM!

THIS GUY'S NUTS, BUT AS LONG AS HE THINKS UP GOOD JOBS, I'M STICKIN' WITH HIM!



AND SO, **TWO-FACE** AGAIN TURNS TO HIS TRADE-MARK CRIMES, BASING ALL ON THE TOSS OF HIS TWO-FACED COIN!

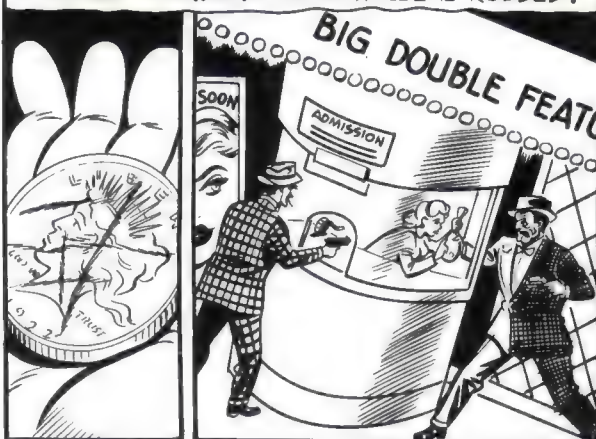
THE **BAD SIDE** WINS!



A NICE HAUL OF PAID ADMISSIONS FOR A **DOUBLE-HEADER** GAME!



AND WHEN THE SCARRED SIDE WINS AGAIN, A **DOUBLE-FEATURE** MOVIE HOUSE IS ROBBED!



AND THEN TO HEADQUARTERS COMES NEWS OF ANOTHER STRANGE ROBBERY...

LISTEN TO THIS-- A MIDGET SUBMARINE WAS STOLEN FROM A MILITARY EXHIBIT!

A **TWO-MAN SUB!** IT'S A **TWO-FACE** JOB! HE PROBABLY NEEDS THAT SUB FOR A WATER ROBBERY! THAT MEANS **ROBIN** AND I WILL DO SOME WATER PATROLLING IN THE **BAT-PLANE!**



AFTERWARD, FROM UNDER THE GOTHAM RIVER, A SUBMARINE PERISCOPE SCANS A SLOW-MOVING CRAFT.

I CAN SEE OUR QUARRY ON THE FERRY! PREPARE TO **SURFACE!**



MOMENTS LATER, AFTER GAINING THE FERRY...

YOU'RE PROFESSOR HODGE OF THE GOTHAM ZOO! YOU'RE CARRYING THE EGG OF AN AMAZON JUNGLE BIRD SO RARE IT'S NEVER BEEN BRED IN CAPTIVITY! I WANT THAT EGG!

B-BUT I'VE ONE **ONE** EGG! IT'S NOT LIKE YOU TO STEAL SOMETHING UNLESS **TWO** OF SOMETHING IS INVOLVED!



HOW CAN **TWO-FACE** STEAL A SINGLE EGG, AND YET FULFILL HIS THEME OF SYMBOLIC CRIMES ALWAYS BASED ON **TWO**? CAN YOU GUESS?

(7)

I'VE INSIDE INFORMATION FROM SOMEONE WHO **CANDLED** THAT EGG! THAT SINGLE EGG HAS A **DOUBLE-YOLK**--WHICH MEANS IT WILL HATCH **TWO** RARE AND EXTREMELY VALUABLE BIRDS INSTEAD OF ONLY ONE!



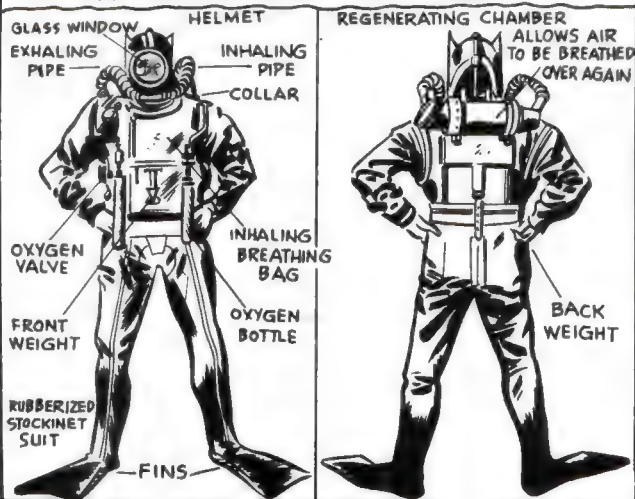
THEN, AS THE TWO BANDITS REENTER THEIR TWO-MAN SUB...

I'VE JUST SPOTTED THE SUB! GET STARTED, **BATMAN**! THEY'RE SUBMERGING!

TAKE THE CONTROLS, **ROBIN**! IT'S A GOOD THING WE MADE PLANS FOR JUST SUCH AN EMERGENCY! **BATMAN** IS GOING TO BECOME A "**FROG MAN**!"



BATMAN'S "FROG MAN" DIVING SUIT--FIRST USED BY NAVY MEN TO SWIM UNOBSERVED TO DISCONNECT GERMAN UNDERWATER MINES AND PREPARE THE WAY FOR INVASION ON D-DAY!



AN INSTANT LATER, **BATMAN** DIVES FROM THE **BATPLANE**...



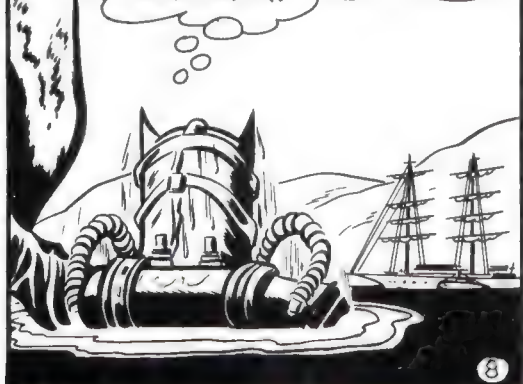
LIKE SOME BIZARRE UNDERWATER CREATURE, **BATMAN** MOVES UNDER THE SURFACE WITH THE WEB-FOOTED SURENESS OF A GIANT FROG!



NOW I'LL HITCH A RIDE AND LET THE SUB TAKE ME RIGHT TO **TWO-FACE'S** HIDEOUT!

AND SO, BECAUSE **BATMAN** HAS **DOUBLED** AS A "**FROG MAN**," HE FINALLY TRACKS DOWN THE LAIR OF **TWO-FACE**!

EVERYTHING ACCORDING TO PATTERN-- **TWO-FACE'S** HIDEOUT IS AN OLD **TWO-MASTED** SCHOONER!



LATER, AS BLINKY WALKS THE DECK ALONE, A FIST SEEMS TO COME OUT OF NOWHERE...

THAT TAKES CARE OF BLINKY! NOW I'LL TIE HIM UP AND HIDE HIM SOMEWHERE! MY PLAN WON'T WORK UNLESS I'M ALONE WITH **TWO-FACE**!



SOON AFTER...

BATMAN!
WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?

WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT IS, WHERE YOU'RE GOING!



GRAPPLING LIKE SAVAGE CAVEMEN, THE TWO THRASH ABOUT THE CABIN FLOOR...



BUT **TWO-FACE** SEEMS TO GAIN THE ADVANTAGE, AND THEN...

HAH! YOUR STRENGTH IS GREATLY OVER-RATED, **BATMAN!**



AND SO, ONCE AGAIN **BATMAN'S** FATE RESTS ON THE TOSS OF A COIN!

WELL, **BATMAN**, WHAT SHALL IT BE THIS TIME? WILL YOU LIVE OR WILL YOU DIE? WILL THE GOOD SIDE OF THE COIN WIN OR WILL IT BE THE BAD SIDE?

WAIT!
WHAT IF THE COIN STANDS ON EDGE?



WILL YOU AGREE TO GIVE YOURSELF UP AND SUBMIT TO PLASTIC SURGERY, IF THE COIN STANDS ON EDGE?

OF COURSE I AGREE TO WHATEVER THE COIN DECIDES-- BUT YOU'RE A FOOL! IT'S A MILLION-TO-ONE THAT THE COIN WILL NEVER STAND ON EDGE! HA! HA!



APPARENTLY, **BATMAN** HAS STAKED EVERYTHING ON A MILLION-TO-ONE CHANCE! WILL HE WIN--OR LOSE? WATCH THE SPINNING COIN!

THE COIN TWIRLS HIGH, THEN SPIRALS DOWN LIKE A GLEAMING COMET...



...IT HITS THE FLOOR, BOUNCING, ROLLING...



... AND FINALLY COMES TO REST-- **STANDING ON EDGE!**



REMEMBER YOUR PROMISE! YOU CAN'T GO BACK AGAINST THE DECISION OF THE COIN THAT IS YOUR SYMBOL!



YES--YES-- YOU WIN, **BATMAN!** IT-- IT'S INCREDIBLE-- THAT COIN STANDING ON EDGE! IT WOULDN'T HAPPEN AGAIN IN A MILLION TRIES-- BUT IT HAPPENED ONCE-- FOR YOU!



LATER, AFTER DELIVERING BLINKY TO JAIL, AND **TWO-FACE** TO A PROMINENT SURGEON...

A MILLION -TO-ONE, AND YOU WON! THAT IS CRAZY LUCK!



CRAZY LIKE A FOX! I KNEW **TWO-FACE** WOULD DECIDE MY FATE ON THE TOSS OF A COIN, JUST AS HE DID ONCE BEFORE-- THAT'S WHY I LET HIM "CAPTURE" ME!

WHILE WE WERE GRAPPLING, I LIFTED HIS COIN FROM HIS POCKET, AND **SUBSTITUTED THIS COIN I'D ALREADY PREPARED!** WATCH MY COIN...



I HOLLOWED OUT THAT COIN SO THAT THE WEIGHT IS ALWAYS IN ONE PLACE ON THE EDGE! IT JUST **CAN'T** FALL FACE UP!

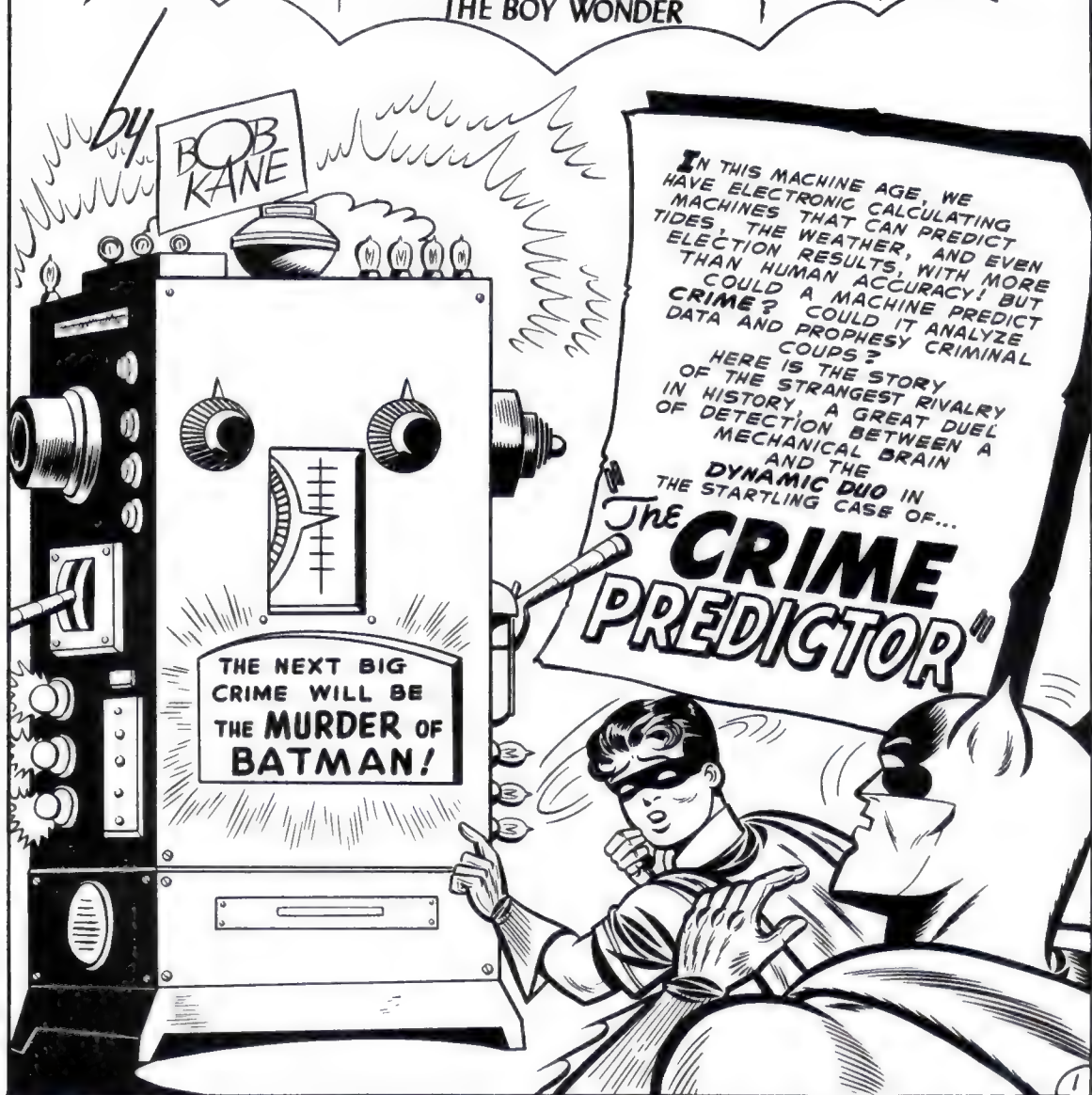
YOU WON AGAINST **TWO-FACE** WITH **TWO** COINS! **BATMAN**, YOU WERE **TOO** SMART FOR HIM-- **TWO** SMART FOR HIM!



The END

BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER



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IN A LABORATORY ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF GOTHAM, DR. EDWARD ARVIN, A BRILLIANT SCIENTIST, PREPARES TO REVEAL AN AMAZING INVENTION TO THE CITY'S TOP LAWMEN...

MY **PREDICTOR** WORKS ON AN ELECTRONIC PRINCIPLE! WHEN I FEED CRIMINAL STATISTICS INTO IT ON TAPE, IT MATHEMATICALLY PREDICTS THE FUTURE ACTIONS OF ANY KNOWN CRIMINAL!

HMM! WELL, WE'D LIKE TO LAY OUR HANDS ON "MUGS" WILDEN... ASK IT WHAT **HE'S** GOING TO DO NEXT!



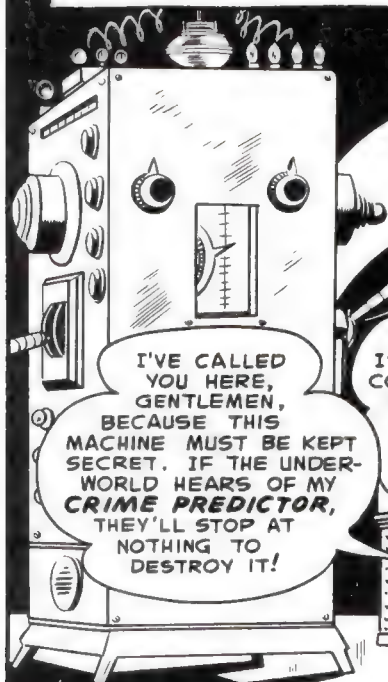
GO AHEAD! AS LONG AS I'M POLICE COMMISSIONER, WE CAN'T AFFORD TO OVERLOOK ANY POSSIBLE WEAPON AGAINST CRIME!

POWER IS SWITCHED INTO THE GIANT CALCULATOR... AND THE UNCANNY ELECTRONIC BRAIN ANSWERS...

BY EVALUATING ITS INFORMATION ON WILDEN'S METHODS OF CRIME, AND THEN SELECTING FROM ITS DATA ON BANKS, PAYROLLS AND POSSIBLE LOOT, IT CAN MAKE THIS ACCURATE PREDICTION!

IT SEEMS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE... HMM... I HAVE AN IDEA TO TEST IT.

I'VE CALLED YOU HERE, GENTLEMEN, BECAUSE THIS MACHINE MUST BE KEPT SECRET. IF THE UNDERWORLD HEARS OF MY **CRIME PREDICTOR**, THEY'LL STOP AT NOTHING TO DESTROY IT!



ON THE SCREEN...

MUGS WILDEN WILL ROB GOTHAM BALLBEARING PAYROLL TOMORROW AT NINE A.M.!

DOCTOR, I MUST PROTECT MY IDENTITY... AND THIS MACHINE **MIGHT** EXPOSE IT! I WANT, IN PRIVACY, TO SEE IF IT CAN IDENTIFY ME!

I HADN'T THOUGHT OF THAT DANGER! OF COURSE, I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO FEED QUESTIONS INTO IT ON PAPER TAPE, AND ONLY YOU WILL BE HERE TO KNOW THE ANSWER!



AND, WHEN THE OTHERS HAVE STEPPED OUTSIDE, IN ANSWER TO THE QUESTION "WHO IS **BATMAN?**"...

BUT IT'S A LOGICAL GUESS! I'LL ASK IT, "WHO IS **MR. BLANK**, THE SECRET BOSS OF GOTHAM CITY?"

GOSH, **BATMAN**, THAT'S CLOSE... TOO CLOSE!

INSUFFICIENT DATA... BUT FACTS INDICATE **BATMAN** IS A RICH MAN, WITH NO JOB OR BUSINESS TO HAMPER HIS CAREER!



INSUFFICIENT... DATA... BUT **MR. BLANK'S** KNOWLEDGE OF CRIMINALS IMPLIES A LONG CRIMINAL RECORD!

YES, BUT NOT VERY HELPFUL! **ROBIN**, TELL GORDON AND DR. ARVIN TO COME BACK IN... I'M GOING TO ASK THE MACHINE WHAT **MR. BLANK'S** NEXT CRIME WILL BE!

A LOGICAL ANSWER, TOO!



THIS TIME, THE **PREDICTOR** RETURNS A FATEFUL ANSWER...

MR. BLANK WILL NEXT MURDER BATMAN!

WE'LL HAVE TO STUDY YOUR **PREDICTOR** FURTHER, DR. ARVIN, BEFORE WE CAN ACCEPT IT FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT!

I KNOW YOU'RE SKEPTICAL NOW, BUT IT'LL SOON PROVE ITSELF! AND I WANT TO **GIVE** IT TO THE DEPARTMENT, TO PREVENT CRIME!



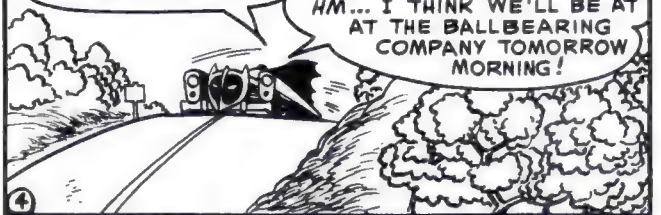
LOOK, **BATMAN**, THERE'S YOUR ANSWER! IT MAY BE ALL WRONG, BUT I DON'T LIKE THIS!

THE **PREDICTOR** IS ALWAYS ACCURATE! I ADVISE YOU TO BE CAREFUL, **BATMAN**!



BATMAN, EVEN IF DR. ARVIN IS A BRILLIANT SCIENTIST, I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT A CALCULATING MACHINE CAN PREDICT CRIME!

NEITHER DO I, **ROBIN**, BUT ARVIN HAS NOTHING TO GAIN BY FRAUD, SINCE HE OFFERED TO GIVE THE MACHINE TO THE POLICE. HM... I THINK WE'LL BE AT THE BALL BEARING COMPANY TOMORROW MORNING!



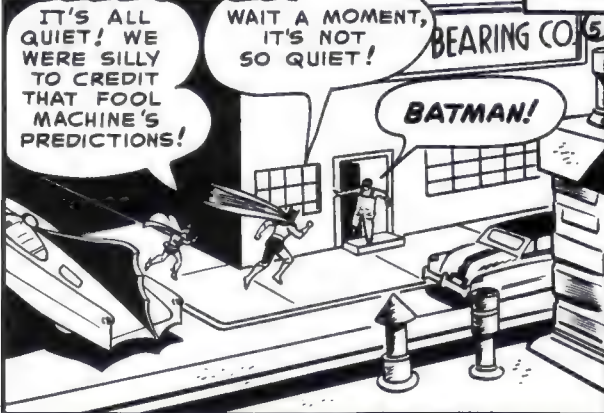
AND NEXT MORNING...

IT'S ALL QUIET! WE WERE SILLY TO CREDIT THAT FOOL MACHINE'S PREDICTIONS!

WAIT A MOMENT, IT'S NOT SO QUIET!

BEARING CO.

BATMAN!



A BANDIT IS ROBBING THE PAYROLL OFFICE!

AND IT'S JUST 9 O'CLOCK! BUT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

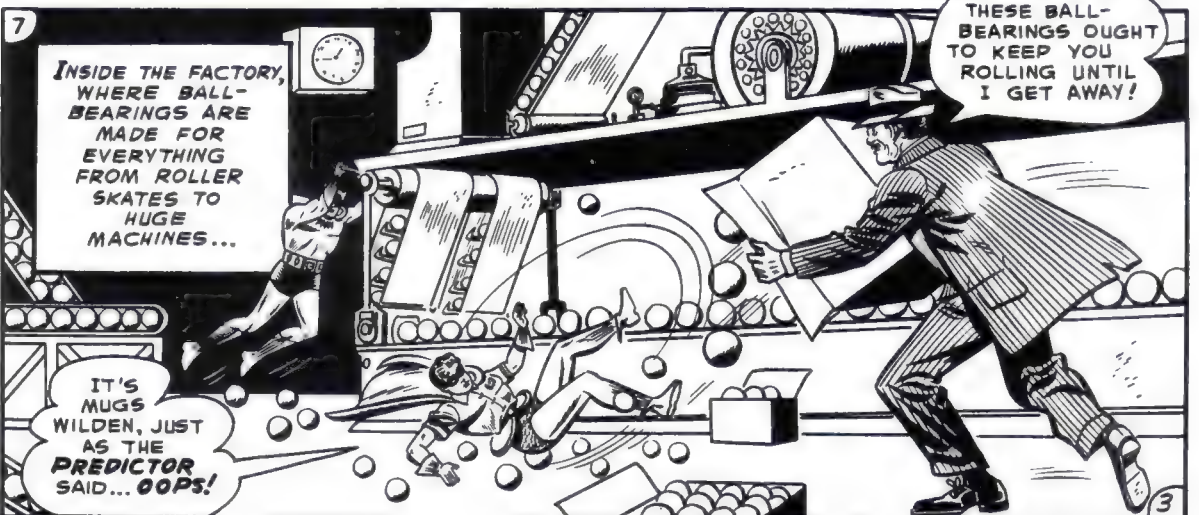
WE'LL SOON SEE!

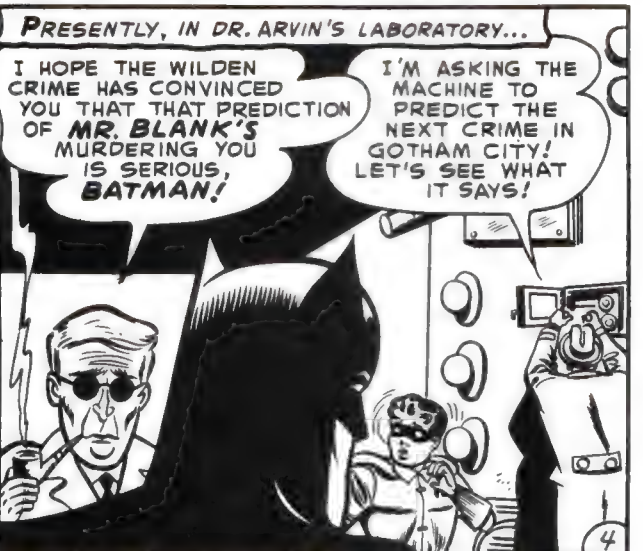


INSIDE THE FACTORY, WHERE BALL-BEARINGS ARE MADE FOR EVERYTHING FROM ROLLER SKATES TO HUGE MACHINES...

IT'S MUGS WILDEN, JUST AS THE **PREDICTOR** SAID... **OOOPS!**

THESE BALL-BEARINGS OUGHT TO KEEP YOU ROLLING UNTIL I GET AWAY!





PRESENTLY...

BOYAR MOB WILL TAKE
JEWEL SHIPMENT FROM
SEALED CAR TODAY
THREE P.M.!

WELL, FOREWARNED IS
FOREARMED! AND IF THE
MACHINE IS RIGHT AGAIN
WE CAN'T PASS
IT OFF AS
COINCIDENCE!

COME ON,
BATMAN...
WE HAVE JUST
TIME TO GET
READY FOR
MR. BOYAR
AND HIS
PALS!

AS THE TIME FORETOLD FOR THE DARING
DAYLIGHT ROBBERY DRAWS NEAR...

I HOPE BOYAR DOESN'T
SHOW UP... THEN THE
PREDICTOR WOULD
BE PROVEN WRONG!

STOP WORRY-
ING ABOUT THAT
MR. BLANK
PREDICTION!
WORRY ABOUT
BOYAR... THERE
HE IS NOW, HEAD-
ING FOR THAT
SEALED EXPRESS
CAR!

SUDDENLY, A CLEVER CROOK FINDS HIMSELF
IN TROUBLE... BECAUSE OF THE PREDICTION
OF AN UNCANNY MACHINE...

CAN I OFFER YOU
BOYS SOME HELP?
THAT CAR IS
SEALED, BUT I
KNOW A JAIL
I CAN GET YOU
INTO!

IT'S **BATMAN**...
AND HALF THE
COPS IN GOTHAM
CITY! MAKE FOR
THE ROUNDHOUSE...
WE MAY BE ABLE
TO DODGE THEM
IN THERE!

THERE GOES
BOYAR, INTO
THAT LOCOMOTIVE
CAB!

I'LL TAKE CARE
OF HIM... YOU
HELP THE POLICE
ROUND UP THE
OTHERS!

SPLIT-SECOND TIMING AND THE TRAINED
MUSCLES OF THE **BOY WONDER** ACCOMPLISH
A MIRACLE...

BUT AS **BATMAN** LEAPS FOR THE
CAB AFTER BOYAR...

NO ONE'S GOING
TO TAKE ME,
BATMAN... I'LL
RUN OVER ANY-
ONE WHO TRIES
IT!

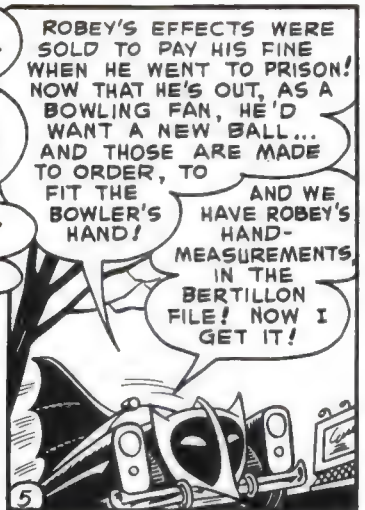
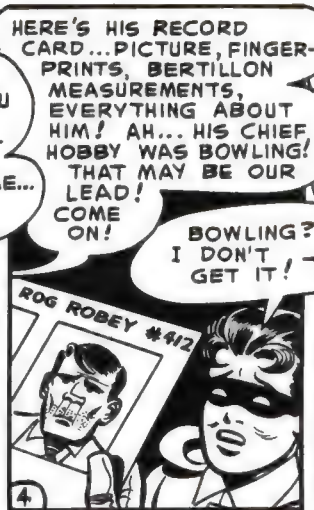
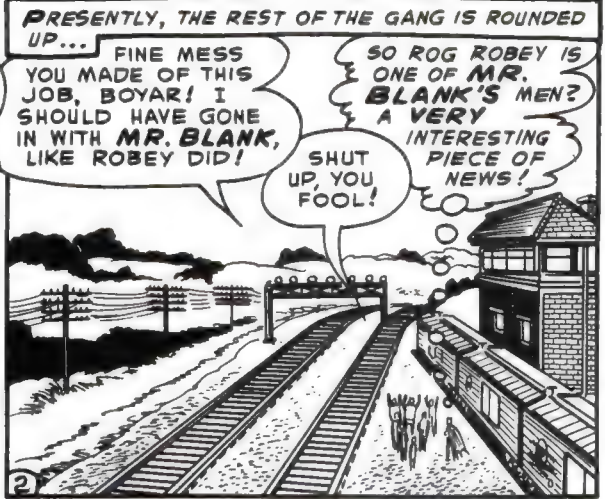
THAT STEAM...
IT'S
BLINDED
ME!

HE'LL FALL
UNDER THE
WHEELS! IF I
CAN GET MY
ROPE OVER
THAT BEAM...

JUST IN
TIME! THAT
WAS A
CLOSE ONE!

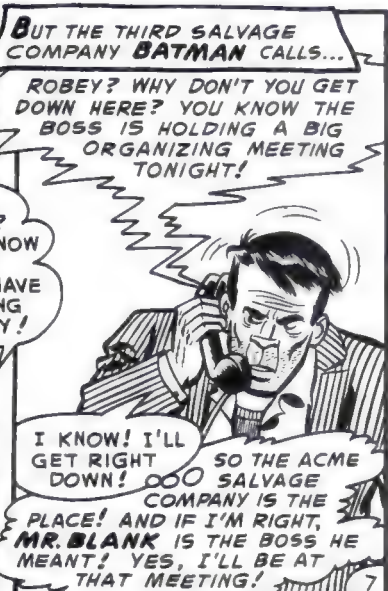
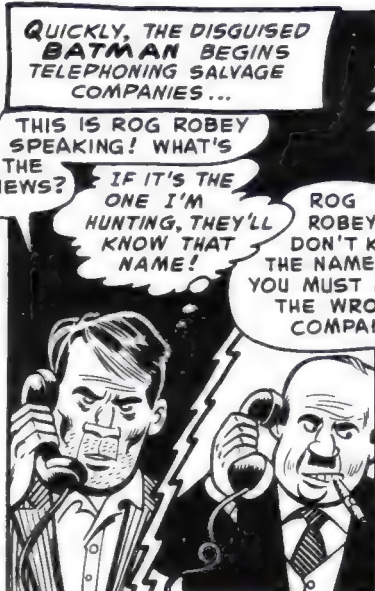
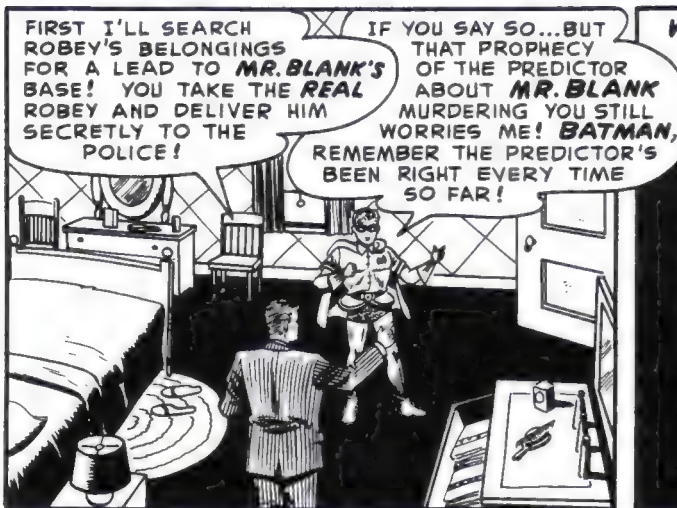
THANKS, **ROBIN**...
I SHOULD HAVE
NOTICED THAT
LOCOMOTIVE HAD
STEAM UP AND WAS
READY TO GO! GOT
TO CATCH HIM BEFORE
HE GETS OUT INTO
THE YARD!

A SECOND TRY IS EASILY SUCCESSFUL, AND...



SOON, AFTER TOURING SOME BIG GOTHAM CITY BOWLERS' SUPPLY STORES...





BUT MEANWHILE, ON HIS WAY TO DELIVER THE CAPTURED CROOK TO POLICE, THE **BOY WONDER** IS HAUNTED BY THE MECHANICAL BRAIN'S PROPHECY...

BATMAN'S GOING AFTER THE VERY MAN THE **PREDICTOR** PROPHESED WOULD MURDER HIM! I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING! I'LL ASK THE **PREDICTOR** TO TELL ME HOW **MR. BLANK** PLANS TO MURDER **BATMAN**!



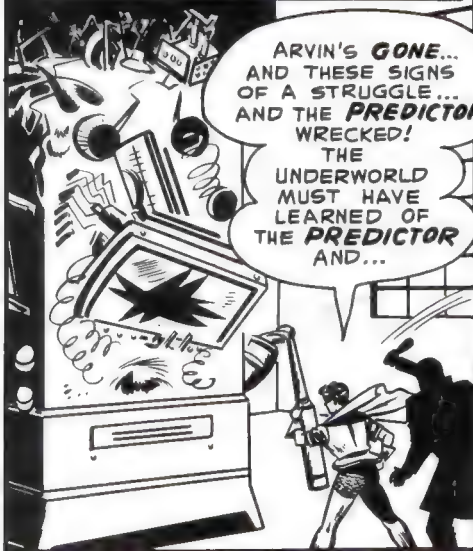
ROBIN'S MIND IS SWIFTLY MADE UP!

HERE, BEHIND **DR. ARVIN'S** HOUSE, **ROBEY** WON'T BE NOTICED IN THE **BATMOBILE**... I CAN TAKE HIM TO THE POLICE AFTER I'VE ASKED THE **PREDICTOR** THAT QUESTION!



BUT IN **DR. ARVIN'S** LABORATORY, A SHOCK AWAITS THE **BOY WONDER**...

ARVIN'S GONE... AND THESE SIGNS OF A STRUGGLE... AND THE **PREDICTOR** WRECKED! THE UNDERWORLD MUST HAVE LEARNED OF THE **PREDICTOR** AND...

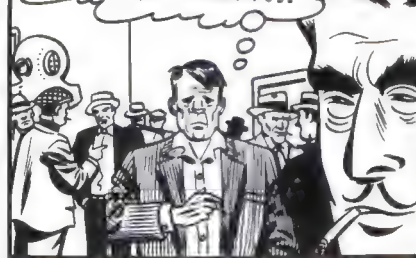


RIGHT! THE **PREDICTOR** WILL ANSWER NO MORE QUESTIONS!



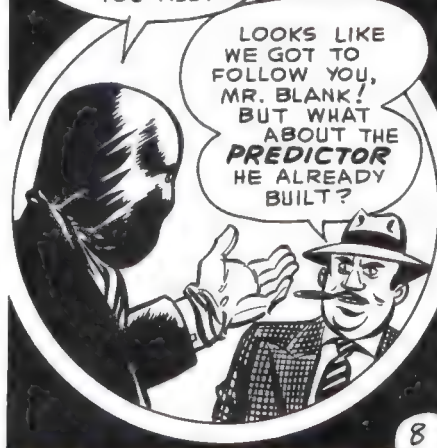
MEANWHILE, AT THE **ACME SALVAGE COMPANY**, THE DISGUISED **BATMAN** AWAITS THE ARRIVAL OF THE MYSTERIOUS **MR. BLANK**...

EVERYBODY IMPORTANT IN THE UNDERWORLD IS HERE TONIGHT! **MR. BLANK** IS REALLY ORGANIZING, AND I'D BETTER WATCH MY STEP! IF THEY FIND OUT I'M NOT **ROBEY**...



FINALLY, A MASKED MASTER CRIMINAL APPEARS!

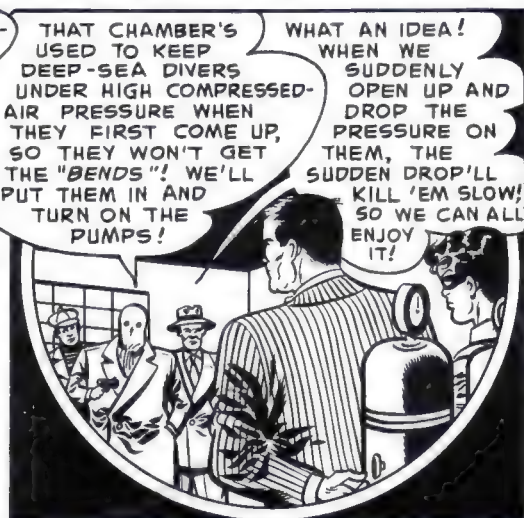
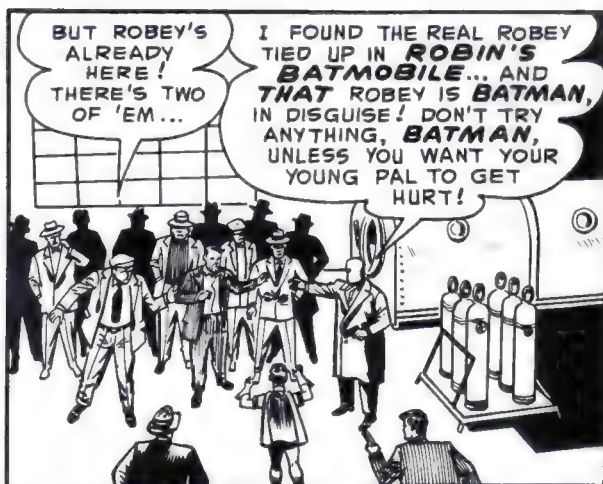
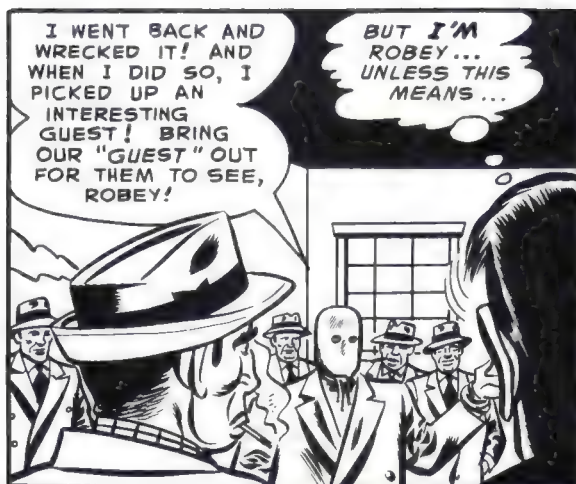
BUT I'VE KIDNAPPED **ARVIN** AND AM KEEPING HIM IN A SAFE PLACE! UNLESS YOU ACCEPT ME AS BOSS, I'LL RELEASE HIM AND HE'LL BUILD ANOTHER **PREDICTOR** THAT'LL JAIL YOU ALL!

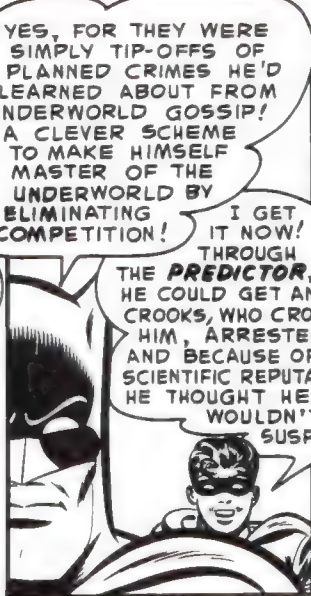
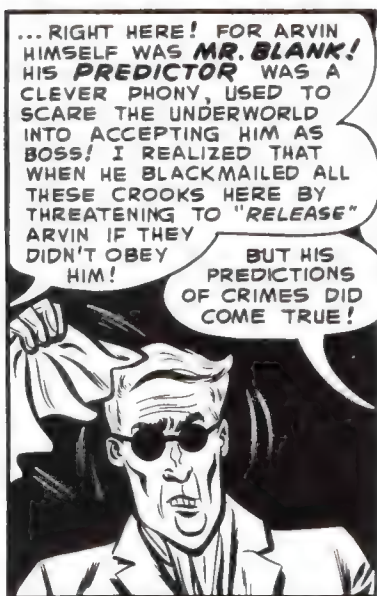
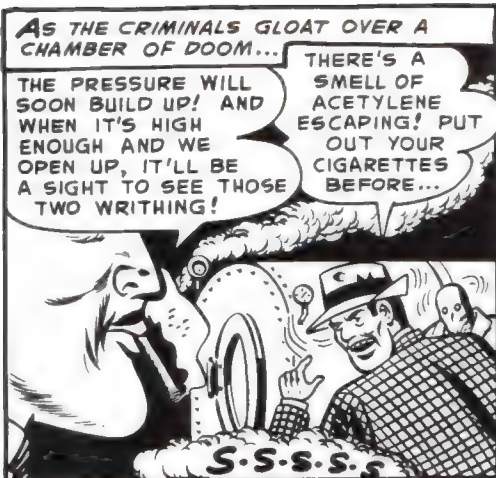


LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS! WHY DID YOU CALL THIS MEETING?

TO LET YOU ALL KNOW WHO'S BOSS, NOW THAT **WILDEN** AND **BOYAR** ARE IN JAIL! IT WAS **DR. ARVIN'S CRIME PREDICTOR** THAT PUT THEM IN JAIL... AND THAT MACHINE COULD TRAP YOU ALL!

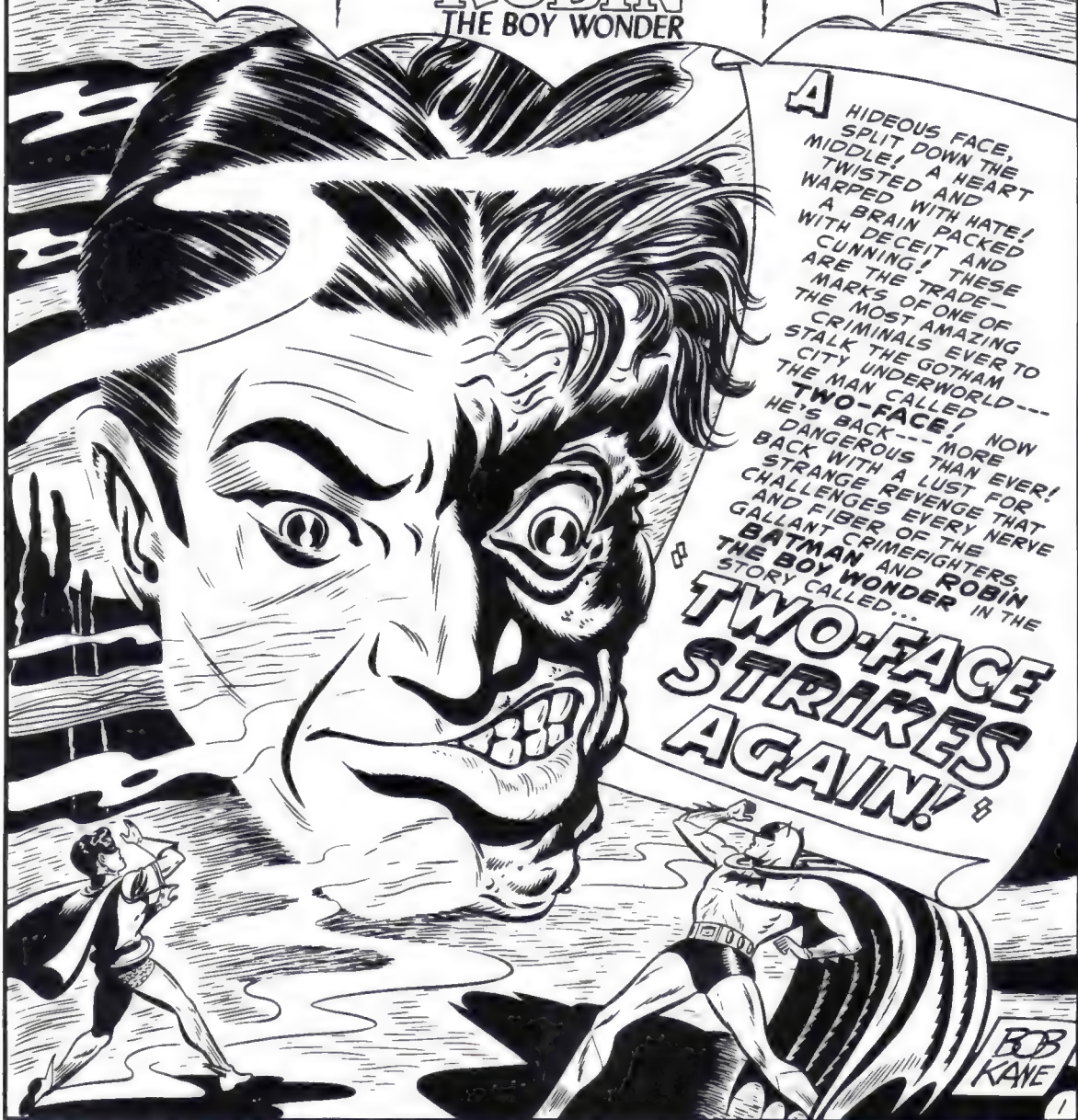






BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER



A HIDEOUS FACE, SPLIT DOWN THE MIDDLE! A HEART TWISTED AND WARPED WITH HATE! A BRAIN PACKED WITH DECEIT AND CUNNING! THESE ARE THE TRADE-MARKS OF ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING CRIMINALS EVER TO STALK THE GOTHAM CITY UNDERWORLD--- THE MAN CALLED **TWO-FACE!** NOW HE'S BACK--- MORE DANGEROUS THAN EVER! BACK WITH A LUST FOR STRANGE REVENGE THAT CHALLENGES EVERY NERVE AND FIBER OF THE GALLANT CRIMEFIGHTERS **BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER** IN THE STORY CALLED...
TWO-FACE STRIKES AGAIN!

BOB KANE

ONE EVENING, IN DOWNTOWN GOTHAM CITY...

LOOK, DEAR! THAT MAN PASSING US! THAT'S HARVEY DENT, THE LAWYER-- THE MAN ONCE KNOWN AS **TWO-FACE**! FUNNY, I WAS JUST READING HIS STRANGE STORY IN THIS MAGAZINE!



YES, HARVEY DENT IN THE FLESH---AND COMPLETELY UNAWARE OF THE TWIST OF FATE THAT LIES WAITING FOR HIM JUST MINUTES AWAY!

SAFE-CRACKERS AT WORK! THERE WAS A TIME-- WHEN I WAS **TWO-FACE**-- THAT I WOULD PASS A THING LIKE THIS RIGHT BY! BUT NO! AS A LAW-ABIDING CITIZEN, I MUST ACT!



SO INTENT IS HE ON CAPTURING THE CROOKS, DENT FAILS TO HEED THE DANGER-SIGNS! ALL AT ONCE...



HOW'S THAT FOR COINCIDENCE! I BUY A MAGAZINE WITH **TWO-FACE'S** STORY IN IT-- AND A MOMENT LATER, HE COMES WALKING BY IN THE FLESH!

THE STRANGE CAREER OF TWO-FACE



HARVEY DENT WITH HIS FACE RESTORED BY PLASTIC SURGERY



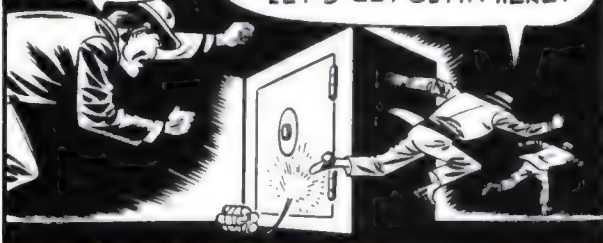
HARVEY DENT AS HE LOOKED AFTER THE ACCIDENT WHICH TURNED HIM INTO **TWO-FACE**, THE DESPERATE CRIMINAL

By *Edgar*

AND SO, A MOMENT LATER...

ALL RIGHT, YOU TWO! STAND WHERE YOU ARE!

HE SCARED ME! BY ACCIDENT, I LIT THE EXPLOSIVE BEFORE THE CHARGE WAS SET! LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!



RUSHING BLINDLY OUT OF THE STORE, HIS FACE SEARED WITH PAIN, DENT HAILS A CAB WHICH TAKES HIM HOME. THEN, IN THE PRIVACY OF HIS BEDROOM...

LOOK AT ME! THE EXPLOSION HAS UNDONE ALL MY PLASTIC SURGERY-- I HAVE BECOME **TWO-FACE!! TWO-FACE TWO-FACE!!**



AND NOW IT BECOMES CLEAR THAT MORE THAN DENT'S FACE HAS BEEN RE-INJURED! THE SCAR REACHES RIGHT THROUGH TO HIS BRAIN!

THIS SETTLES IT! THIS PROVES I WAS MEANT TO BE A CRIMINAL! FATE HAS DECREED IT! MY DOCTOR WARNED ME AGAINST ANY FUTURE ACCIDENTS-- SAID PLASTIC SURGERY COULDN'T BE PERFORMED A SECOND TIME! I'M DOOMED TO LOOK THIS WAY FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!



ALL RIGHT! IF THAT'S THE WAY IT MUST BE, I'LL GIVE IT THE FINAL TEST! I HAD A DUPLICATE MADE OF MY FAMED TWO-FACED COIN, TO KEEP AS A MEMENTO! I'LL SOON SEE IF ITS DECISION CONCURS WITH THAT OF FATE!



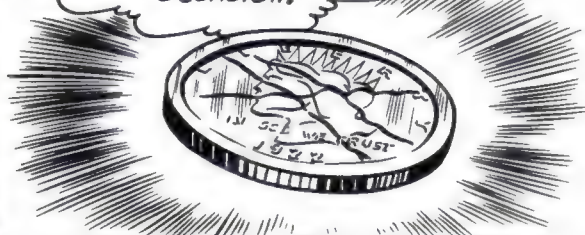
ABRUPTLY, TWO-FACE FLIPS THE BIZARRE COIN INTO THE AIR, THEN, AS IT BOUNCES AND FINALLY SETTLES ON THE FLOOR--

SOON AFTER...

AHHH-- HERE IT IS! ONE FACE OF THE COIN MARRED--- THE EVIL FACE! IF THAT COMES UP WHEN I SPIN THE COIN-- THEN BATMAN AND ROBIN BEWARE!



THE EVIL FACE UP! THE CRIMINAL CAREER OF TWO-FACE BEGINS AGAIN! AND I MUST THINK UP SOMETHING VERY SPECIAL TO FIT THE OCCASION!

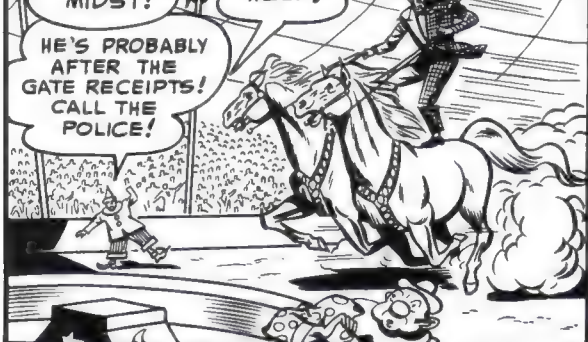


NEXT EVENING AT THE GOTHAM CITY CIRCUS, THE AUDIENCE GETS AN UNEXPECTED SHOCK...

LOOK! IT'S TWO-FACE! HE'S BACK IN OUR MIDST!

HE'S PROBABLY AFTER THE GATE RECEIPTS! CALL THE POLICE!

STILL USING HIS PERSONAL SYMBOL, THE NUMBER TWO! SEE? TWO WHITE HORSES! HELP!



BUT THE SCARRED CRIMINAL DOES NOT ATTACK THE BOXOFFICE, AS EXPECTED! INSTEAD, HE BARGES INTO THE DRESSING-ROOM OF TARANDO, WORLD-FAMOUS CLOWN!

AHH! TARANDO, THE CLOWN! KNOWN TO KEEP A FABULOUS DIAMOND STICKPIN COLLECTION IN HIS DRESSING-ROOM! I'LL JUST TAKE THEM IF YOU DON'T MIND!



AN HOUR LATER, ABOARD THE YACHT, "SUPREME", DOCKED AT THE GOTHAM BOAT CLUB...



HOW FITTING MY NEXT CRIME SHOULD TAKE PLACE ABOARD A YACHT WITH A TWIN-SCREW PROPELLER ASSEMBLY! HA-HA!

IN THE NEXT MOMENT...



SO YOU'RE CHARLES FORD, THE MILLIONAIRE DEEP-SEA DIVER! AH-HH--- AND THERE ARE THE GEMS FROM THE MANY BURIED TREASURES YOU FOUND ON THE OCEAN BOTTOM! A NICE HAUL, EH??? HA-HA!

TWO-FACE! HELP!

NEXT DAY AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN RESPOND TO AN URGENT SUMMONS SENT OUT BY COMMISSIONER GORDON...



BATMAN! ANOTHER TWO-FACE CRIME WAS JUST REPORTED! IN ADDITION TO THE TWO OF YESTERDAY, HE'S JUST ROBBED JOHN FIELDS BENSON, THE ACTOR!

BENSON! THE ACTOR FAMOUS FOR HIS PORTRAYALS OF ABE LINCOLN! COME ON, ROBIN! LET'S GET OVER TO HIS PLACE RIGHT AWAY!

SOON AFTER, IN THE ACTOR'S APARTMENT...



I'D JUST COME HOME AFTER THE MATINEE PERFORMANCE-- I DON'T BOTHER TO REMOVE MY MAKE-UP BETWEEN THE MATINEE AND EVENING SHOW-- WHEN TWO-FACE BURST IN UPON ME!

AND HE STOLE YOUR VALUABLE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN'S PAPERS! HMMM--- THIS IS NOT LIKE THE TWO-FACE OF OLD!



LATER, IN THE SECRET BATCAVE, AS THE FAMED LAWYEN REVERT TO THEIR EVERY-DAY ROLES AS SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

TWO-FACE HAS COME BACK-- HOW, WHY, WE DON'T KNOW AS YET! BUT EVEN MORE PUZZLING ARE THE CRIMES HE'S COMMITTING! THERE'S NO PATTERN TO THEM!

MAYBE HE'S JUST MAD--- AND HE'S STRIKING WHEREVER HIS FANCY CARRIES HIM!



THEN...

NO, DICK! I'VE GOT IT! I'VE FOUND THE THREAD THAT BINDS THESE THREE CRIMES TOGETHER!

HOW ABOUT YOU??? ARE YOU AS CLEVER AS THE GREAT BATMAN? HAVE YOU CAUGHT ON TO TWO-FACE'S SCHEME?

SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, IN THE BATCAVE CRIME LAB...

YOU SEE, DICK?? ALL OF **TWO-FACE'S** LATEST VICTIMS HAD ONE THING IN COMMON-- IN A SENSE THEY TOO WERE MEN WITH **TWO-FACES!**

OF COURSE! SO THAT'S **TWO-FACE'S** NEWEST WRINKLE! HE'S APPARENTLY DECLARED WAR ON ALL THE OTHER **TWO-FACES** IN GOTHAM CITY!



TARANDO THE CLOWN WITHOUT MAKE-UP



TARANDO THE CLOWN WITH MAKE-UP



CHAS. FORD AS HE REGULARLY APPEARS



CHAS. FORD, IN DEEP SEA DIVER'S HELMET



ACTOR JOHN BENSON WITHOUT MAKE-UP



BENSON IN HIS LINCOLN MAKE-UP

NOW THAT WE KNOW HOW **TWO-FACE** IS WORKING, IT NARROWS THE FIELD OF POSSIBLE FUTURE VICTIMS! WE'LL COMPILER A LIST OF ALL PEOPLE WHO GO THROUGH LIFE WITH **TWO FACES!**



MEANWHILE, IN HIS HIDEOUT, THE BIZARRE JEKYLL-AND-HYDE CRIMINAL ENJOYS HIS INITIAL TRIUMPHS!

YES! I'M TAKING MY REVENGE ON ALL OTHERS WHOSE LIVES DEPEND ON **TWO-FACES!** AND NOW I'M READY TO ENLARGE MY OPERATION BY HIRING A GANG. IF YOU'RE READY, WE'LL PROCEED WITH THE INTERVIEWING!

LOOKIT THIS PLACE! EVERYTHING IN TWOS!



THEN, AS THE HOODLUM APPLICANTS LINE UP, EACH FINDS HIS CHANCE FOR A JOB HANGS ON THE TURN OF A COIN...

YOU'RE LUCKY! MY **TWO-FACED** COIN LANDED BAD SIDE UP! THAT MEANS YOU'RE HIRED AS PART OF MY GANG!



NEXT DAY, THE TWIN-TERRORED CRIMINAL IS READY TO STRIKE AGAIN!

AHHH! MY NEW TWO-TONE CAR! JUST THE THING TO CARRY US ON OUR NEXT JOB AGAINST A MAN WITH TWO FACES!

SAY! I JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHIN', BOSS! YOU KNOW WHO HAS **TWO FACES? BATMAN!**



OF COURSE! DON'T YOU THINK I **KNEW** THAT?? THE ATTACK AGAINST **BATMAN** WILL BE THE **CLIMAX** OF MY CRIME WAVE! BUT FIRST THINGS FIRST! OUR NEXT VICTIM WILL BE "CHICAGO AL" GARVER!

"CHICAGO AL"--- THE BIG-TIME GAMBLER?? I DON'T GET IT! SINCE WHEN DOES HE HAVE **TWO FACES?**



SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, IN THE **BATCAVE**, AS THE POLICE RADIO CALL ARRESTS THE ATTENTION OF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**...

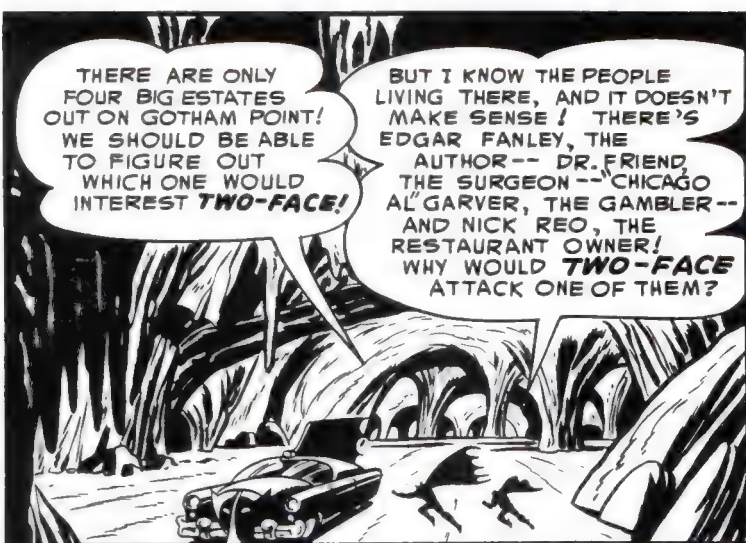
A PEDESTRIAN REPORTS SEEING **TWO-FACE** AND A CAR FULL OF THUGS SPEEDING NORTH ON GOTHAM POINT ROAD...

SOME-ONE'S SPOTTED **TWO-FACE**! COME ON, **BATMAN**!



THERE ARE ONLY FOUR BIG ESTATES OUT ON GOTHAM POINT! WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT WHICH ONE WOULD INTEREST **TWO-FACE**!

BUT I KNOW THE PEOPLE LIVING THERE, AND IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE! THERE'S EDGAR FANLEY, THE AUTHOR-- DR. FRIEND, THE SURGEON-- "CHICAGO AL" GARVER, THE GAMBLER-- AND NICK REO, THE RESTAURANT OWNER! WHY WOULD **TWO-FACE** ATTACK ONE OF THEM?



IN THE NEXT MOMENT, THE POWERFUL **BATMOBILE** IS EATING UP THE MILES EN ROUTE TO GOTHAM POINT! ALL AT ONCE...

I'VE GOT IT, **ROBIN**! **TWO-FACE** IS PROBABLY GUNNING FOR "CHICAGO AL!" HE'S A MAN WITH TWO FACES! HIS REGULAR ONE--- AND THE ONE HE PLAYS CARDS WITH, **HIS POKER FACE**!

WOW! I NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT! BUT IT MAKES PLENTY OF SENSE!



"CHICAGO AL" STARTED AS A RACK BOY IN A POOL HALL-- AND HAD THIS GIANT TABLE BUILT AS A MEMENTO. COME ON, **ROBIN**! LET'S HOPE **TWO-FACE** IS BEHIND THE EIGHT-BALL!

AND SOON AFTER, AT THE GAMBLER'S PALATIAL MANSION...

YOU WERE RIGHT, **BATMAN**-- THERE THEY ARE!

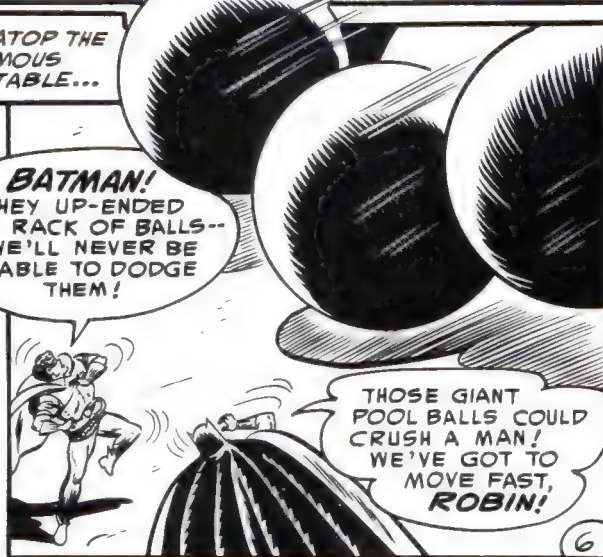
IT'S **BATMAN**! HURRY, MEN--- UP ON THAT GIANT POOL TABLE!



THEN, ATOP THE ENORMOUS POOL TABLE...

BATMAN! THEY UP-ENDED A RACK OF BALLS-- WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO DODGE THEM!

THOSE GIANT POOL BALLS COULD CRUSH A MAN! WE'VE GOT TO MOVE FAST, **ROBIN**!



ALL AT ONCE...

THIS IS THE QUICKEST WAY OUT OF HERE! GET SET FOR A TOBOGGAN SLIDE, **ROBIN!**

I'M RIGHT BEHIND YOU!

AND, AS THE DARING LAWMEN WHIZ DOWN THE RUNWAY THAT NORMALLY CARRIES THE BALL FROM A POCKET TO THE END-TRAY...

BATMAN
I'M STUCK!
MY FOOT'S
CAUGHT!

GOLLY!
ONE OF
THOSE LOOSE
BALLS IS ABOUT
TO DROP INTO
THIS POCKET!
IT'LL COME
ROARING DOWN
THIS CHUTE
LIKE AN
EXPRESS TRAIN!
I'VE GOT TO SAVE
ROBIN!

BACK-TRACKING SWIFTLY, **BATMAN** MANIPULATES HIS SILKEN ROPE WITH LIGHTNING-LIKE RAPIDITY...

QUICK THINKING, **BATMAN!** THAT NET YOU MADE OUT OF YOUR SILKEN CORD HAS TRAPPED THE BALL AND SAVED MY LIFE!

NOW TO FREE YOU AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE!

LATER...

THEY'RE GONE! THEY TOOK ADVANTAGE OF OUR MISHAP UNDER THE POOL TABLE TO MAKE GOOD THEIR ESCAPE!

BUT AT LEAST YOU SCARED **TWO-FACE** OFF BEFORE HE COULD CARRY OUT HIS PLAN! HE WAS GOING TO CLEAN OUT EVERY CENT I HAD IN MY SAFE!

YOU KNOW, **ROBIN**, I THINK WE CAN SCRAP OUR LIST OF POSSIBLE **TWO-FACE** VICTIMS. IT APPEARS NOW THAT **TWO-FACE** ISN'T GOING TO BE AS OBVIOUS AS WE THOUGHT!

WHICH MEANS WE'LL HAVE TO BE MORE ALERT THAN EVER TO SPOT HIS NEXT MOVE!

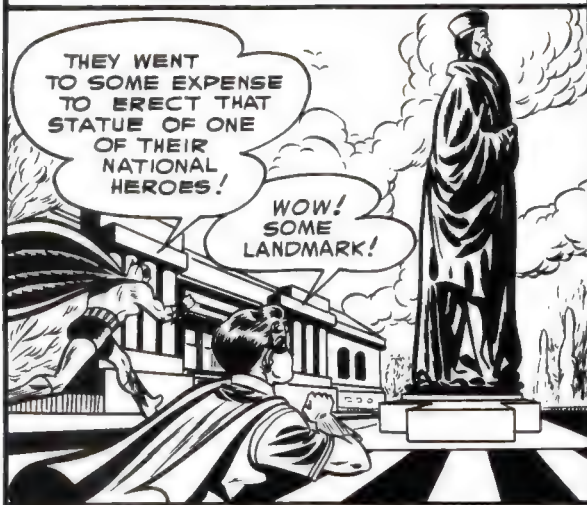
NEXT MORNING, AS **BRUCE** AND **DICK** FINISH THEIR BREAK-FAST IN THE WAYNE HOME...

DICK-- THAT HEADLINE! IT GIVES ME AN IDEA JUST WILD ENOUGH TO FIT INTO **TWO-FACE'S** CURRENT SCHEME!

WAIT-- I THINK I FOLLOW YOU! WHEN AN ORIENTAL IS DISGRACED, IT IS CLAIMED THAT HE "LOST FACE"! THAT WOULD GIVE THIS FELLOW **TWO FACES**--- HIS REAL ONE, AND THE ONE HE "LOST"! COME ON! LET'S CHECK IT!

The Gotham Gazette
JAPANESE ENVOY RECALLED: CITED FOR MISCONDUCT BY OWN GOVERNMENT

AND AS THE LAWMEN RACE TO THE SUB-
URBAN HEADQUARTERS OF THE
FOREIGN DIPLOMAT...



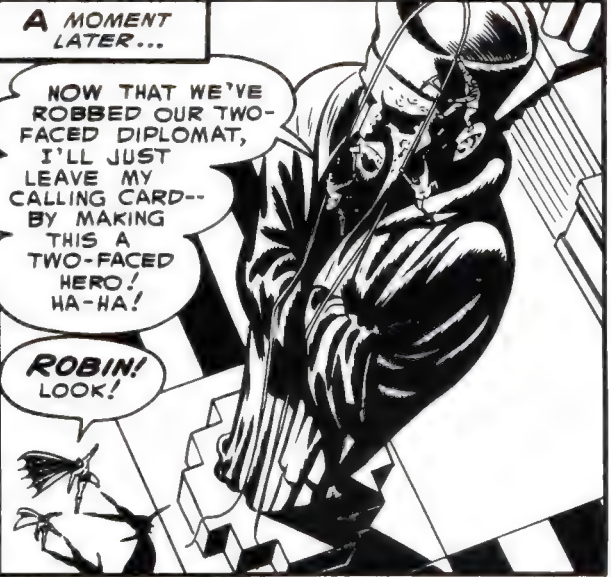
THEY WENT
TO SOME EXPENSE
TO ERECT THAT
STATUE OF ONE
OF THEIR
NATIONAL
HEROES!

WOW!
SOME
LANDMARK!

A MOMENT
LATER...

NOW THAT WE'VE
ROBBED OUR TWO-
FACED DIPLOMAT,
I'LL JUST
LEAVE MY
CALLING CARD--
BY MAKING
THIS A
TWO-FACED
HERO!
HA-HA!

ROBIN!
LOOK!



SWIFTLY THE DARING DUO
SCALES THE GIANT
STATUE--- AND THEN
A WEIRD BATTLE BEGINS!



BATMAN
AGAIN!
VERY CLEVER--
TRACING ME
HERE! BUT
NOW YOU'LL
REGRET IT!

THAT
REMAINS
TO BE
SEEN,
TWO-FACE!

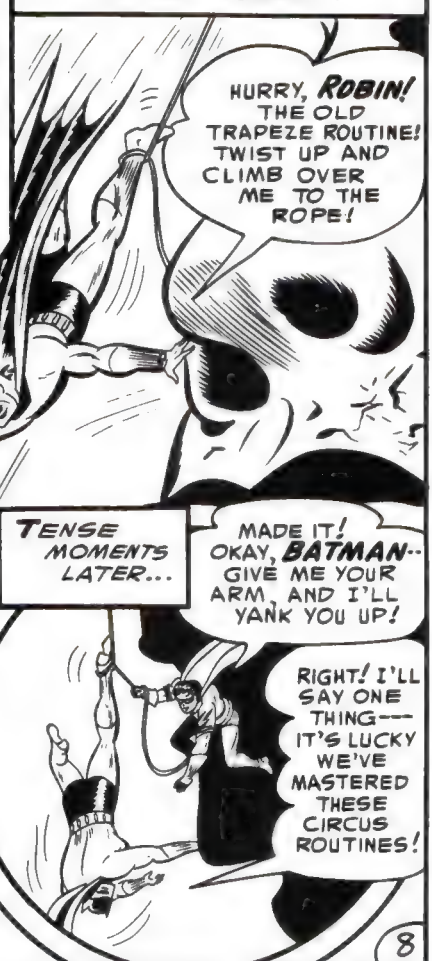
ABRUPTLY...

BATMAN!
THE
PICK-AXE
CUT MY
ROPE! I'M
FALLING!

HE'LL BE
KILLED---
UNLESS I
DO SOME-
THING FAST!



THEN, WITH SWIFT-AS-LIGHTNING
MOVES, **BATMAN**
COILS ONE LEG AROUND HIS
ROPE AND DIVES OFF
AFTER ROBIN...



HURRY, **ROBIN!**
THE OLD
TRAPEZE ROUTINE!
TWIST UP AND
CLIMB OVER
ME TO THE
ROPE!

TENSE
MOMENTS
LATER...

MADE IT!
OKAY, **BATMAN**--
GIVE ME YOUR
ARM, AND I'LL
YANK YOU UP!

RIGHT! I'LL
SAY ONE
THING---
IT'S LUCKY
WE'VE
MASTERED
THESE
CIRCUS
ROUTINES!

SOON AFTER...

HE SLIPPED OUT OF OUR GRASP AGAIN! WHO KNOWS WHEN WE'LL GET ANOTHER SUCH OPPORTUNITY?

THAT'S JUST IT! WE'VE GOT TO **MAKE** OUR OPPORTUNITIES! IF THERE'S ONLY SOME WAY WE COULD DRAW HIM OUT OF HIDING...

THEN, LATE THAT EVENING...

SAY--- I JUST REMEMBERED! THE LOCAL SIOUX RESERVATION WANTS TO HONOR BRUCE WAYNE FOR HIS CHARITY WORK BY MAKING HIM AN HONORARY CHIEF! I'VE PUT IT OFF-- BEEN TOO BUSY! BUT MAYBE THIS IS A WAY TO LURE **TWO-FACE!**

BUT--- I DON'T UNDERSTAND...

WHEN BRUCE WAYNE IS CROWNED AS CHIEF, THAT OFFICIALLY MAKES HIM A **PALEFACE "INDIAN"**! THE PAPERS ARE SURE TO PLAY THAT ANGLE UP--- AND THAT GIVES BRUCE WAYNE **TWO-FACES!** IT'S A LONG SHOT-- BUT CERTAINLY WORTH TRYING!

AND SO TWO DAYS LATER, AS A THROG GATHERS TO WITNESS THE CEREMONY AT THE SIOUX RESERVATION...

WE'LL SEARCH THE CROWD FIRST---IF **TWO-FACE** ISN'T HERE, I'LL SLIP OUT OF MY COSTUME AND ACCEPT THE HONORS AS BRUCE WAYNE!

BATMAN--- LOOK! AN OBSOLETE **BI-PLANE** WITH **TWO-MOTORS!** IT'S LANDING! MAYBE WE'VE HOOKED OUR FISH!

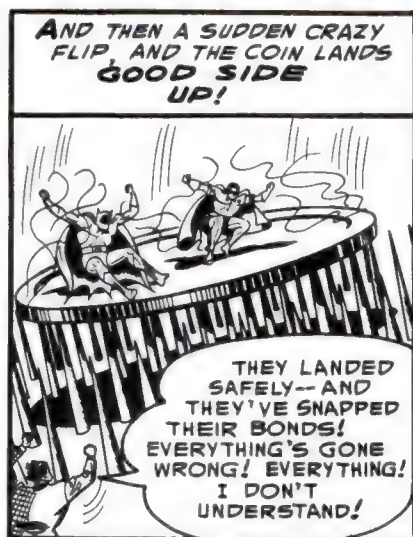
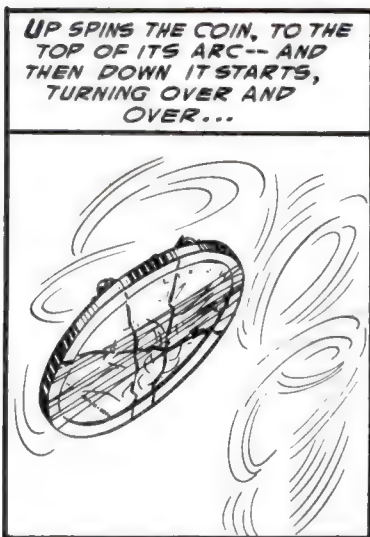
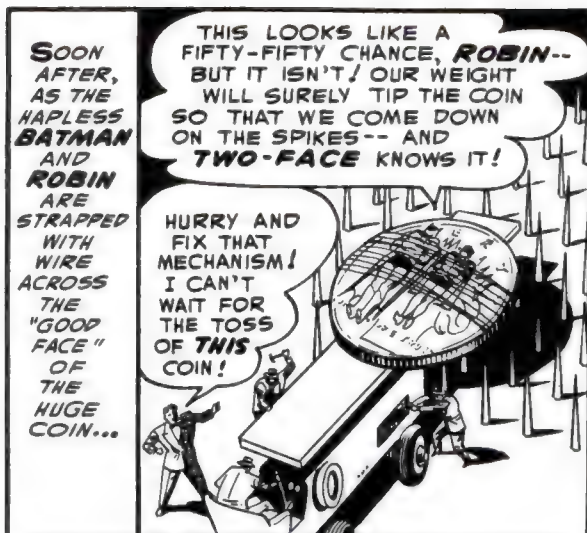
BUT AS THE LAWMEN SWIFTLY SNEAK UP BEHIND THE PLANE...

SAND-- (GASP)-- BLINDED! WE SET A TRAP-- AND FELL INTO ONE OURSELVES! SHOULD HAVE SPOTTED THOSE PILES OF SAND BEHIND THE PROPELLERS!

HA-HA! I GUESSED THEY'D BE HERE! GRAB THEM-- AND WE'LL HURRY TO THE HIDEOUT! EVERYTHING'S SET FOR THE ARRIVAL OF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN!**

AND SOON AFTER, AT TWO-FACE'S HIDEOUT, A GRIM SIGHT GREET'S THE CAPTURED CRIMEFIGHTERS...

ONCE AGAIN MY **LUCKY COIN** WILL DECIDE YOUR FATE, **BATMAN!** ONLY THIS TIME, IT WILL BE A GIANT COIN! YOU'LL BE STRAPPED TO THE COIN AND FLIPPED BY THAT DEVICE INTO THE AIR OVER THE SPIKES! IF YOU COME DOWN WRONG-SIDE-UP --- WELL, NEED I SAY MORE?



BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

RIGHT NEXT TO GOTHAM CITY LIES A WORLD THAT IS AS ALIEN AND PERILOUS AS A FAR-OFF PLANET! IT'S THE WORLD UNDER THE SEA, HAUNTED BY WEIRD AND MENACING CREATURES, A WORLD MOST HUMANS NEVER SEE! BUT WHEN A STRANGE FATE DOOMS **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** TO EXILE IN THAT SUBMARINE WORLD, IT'S NOT THE DANGERS OF THE DEEP, BUT CRIMINALS ON DRY LAND WHO THREATEN TO DOOM...

"The VOYAGE of the **FIRST BATMARINE!**"

CRIME IS RUNNING WILD UP THERE-- YET IF WE COME OUT OF THE WATER, WE'LL DIE!



ON GOTHAM CITY RIVER, AN OVER-LOADED BARGE CARRYING HIGH EXPLOSIVES, THREATENS A FREAK DISASTER...



THE BARGE IS SINKING! I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE!

ME TOO! THE NITRO-GLYCERINE WE'RE CARRYING MAY EXPLODE!

AND WHEN PERIL LOOMS, A FAMOUS SYMBOL SWEEPS THE SKY TO SUMMON BATMAN AND ROBIN -- SECRETLY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...



THE **BAT-SIGNAL**! IT COULD BE ANOTHER OF THOSE PLATINUM ROBBERY-ATTEMPTS!

UNTIL WE CATCH "SLANT" STACEY AND HIS PLATINUM BANDITS, WE'LL GET NO REST! LET'S GET INTO COSTUME-- FAST!

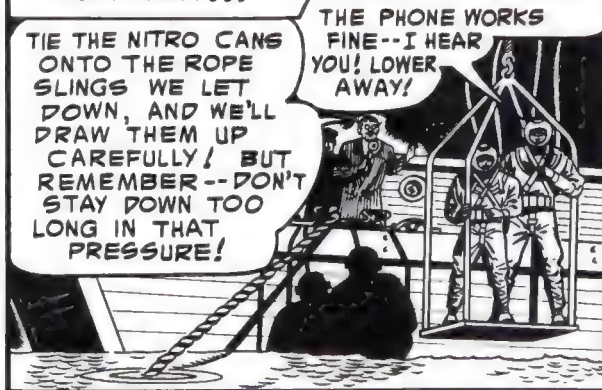
BUT IT IS A GREATER EMERGENCY WHICH HAS SUMMONED THE CAPED MAN-HUNTERS TO COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...



IF THE CANS OF NITRO ON THAT SUNKEN BARGE DRIFT AND EXPLODE, THEY'LL DESTROY HALF THE WATERFRONT! BUT NO DIVER WILL RISK GOING DOWN TO RETRIEVE THEM!

ROBIN AND I HAVE PRACTICED DEEP-SEA DIVING! GET US A PAIR OF DIVING SUITS, AND WE'LL GO DOWN!

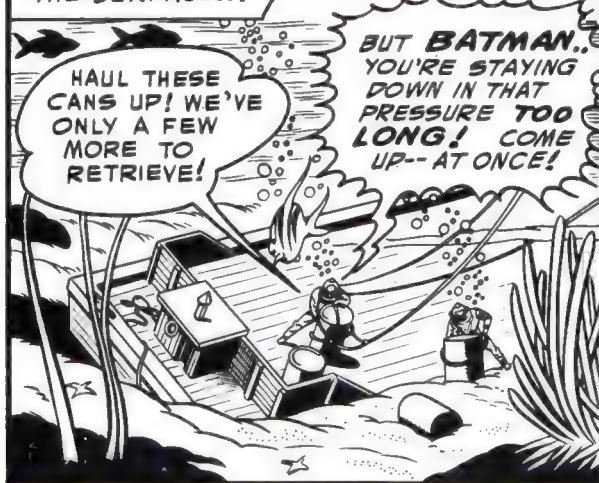
SOON, ON A BARGE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE RIVER...



TIE THE NITRO CANS ONTO THE ROPE SLINGS WE LET DOWN, AND WE'LL DRAW THEM UP CAREFULLY! BUT REMEMBER--DON'T STAY DOWN TOO LONG IN THAT PRESSURE!

THE PHONE WORKS FINE--I HEAR YOU! LOWER AWAY!

FOR NEARLY AN HOUR, BATMAN AND ROBIN LABOR AWAY FAR BENEATH THE SURFACE...



HAUL THESE CANS UP! WE'VE ONLY A FEW MORE TO RETRIEVE!

BUT BATMAN.. YOU'RE STAYING DOWN IN THAT PRESSURE TOO LONG! COME UP-- AT ONCE!

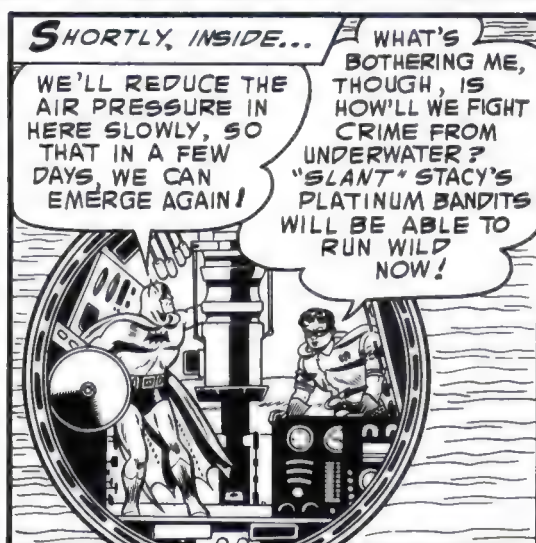
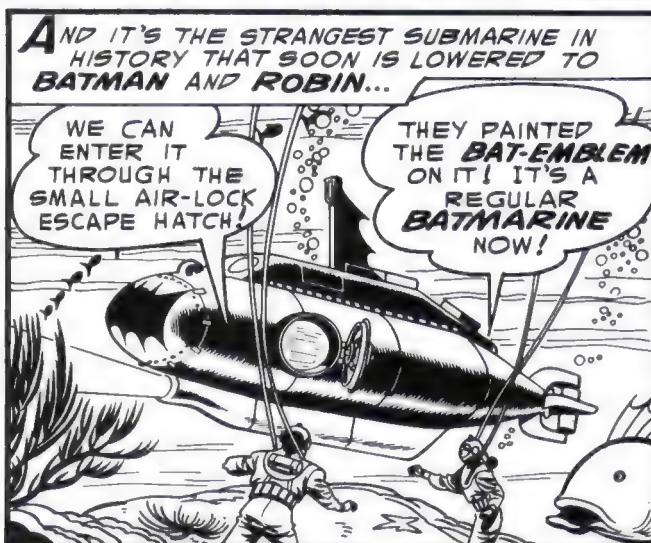


NO-- WE MUST GET THESE LAST CANS, OR THEY DRIFT AWAY AND DESTROY DOCKS AND BRIDGES!

BUT YOU'VE STAYED SO LONG DOWN THERE, YOU CAN'T COME UP NOW--OR YOU'LL DIE FROM THE "BENDS!"

THE "BENDS"-- TERRIBLE PHYSICAL COLLAPSE THAT STRIKES DIVERS WHO RISE TO THE SURFACE TOO RAPIDLY! DOES THIS DOOM THE DYNAMIC DUO?

2



MEANWHILE, UNAWARE OF A FATEFUL DANGER, BATMAN HAS GONE INTO UNDERWATER ACTION...

WE FIGURED STACY'S MOB WOULD TRY FOR THE **ART JEWELRY COMPANY'S** PLATINUM SHIPMENT WHEN IT ARRIVED... AND IT'S DUE TONIGHT! WE'RE GOING TO BE THERE! A LITTLE TO PORT, **ROBIN!**

AYE--AYE, SIR!

AND AS THE GRIM UNDERSEA CRAFT MOVES INTO A PLACE THAT ONLY A POCKET SUB COULD ENTER...

THIS BIG DRAIN-TUNNEL CONNECTS WITH THE PARK LAKE, TO KEEP IT FROM OVERFLOWING!

BUT WE DON'T DARE COME OUT OF THE **BATMARINE** WHEN WE GET THERE, **BATMAN--** SO WHAT GOOD IS THIS?

A GOOD QUESTION, **ROBIN--** FOR AS NIGHT FALLS, AND THE PLATINUM BANDITS STRIKE...

HA, HA... I WISH I COULD SEE **BATMAN'S** FACE WHEN HE HEARS ABOUT THIS!

WAIT, BOSS-- THERE'S SOMETHING OUT THERE IN THE LAKE!

IT--IT'S A POCKET SUB, WITH A **BAT-EMBLEM** ON IT!

SO WHAT? EVEN **BATMAN** CAN'T TOUCH US FROM THERE! COME ON!

BUT BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE RESOURCES THAT STACY HASN'T THOUGHT OF...

TORPEDO TUBE LOADED, SKIPPER-- WITH THAT SALVAGE NET FROM THE LOCKER, AS YOU ORDERED!

WE'RE ON TARGET-- STAND BY TO FIRE!

WITH A ROAR OF COMPRESSED AIR, THE **BATMARINE'S** TORPEDO TUBE LAUNCHES FORTH A WEIRD WEAPON...

LOOK OUT! THEY'VE FIRED A BIG NET!

HELP! I'M CAUGHT!

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

AFTERWARDS, ON ANOTHER STREET...

BATMAN BROKE UP THAT JOB--BUT HE WON'T BREAK UP ANY MORE! WE'RE GOING TO GET HIM AND HIS **BATMARINE** NOW!

IF YOU SUCCEED, GOOD! BUT IF YOU DON'T, MY **BIG** PLAN CAN'T FAIL AGAINST **BATMAN**!

AND SOON, HOODLUMS WITH STOLEN EQUIPMENT RE-ENACT A WAR-TIME SCENE...

I CAN HEAR HIS **BATMARINE** NOW... DROP THE NITRO!

HA, HA--THE VERY NITRO THAT GOT **BATMAN** INTO THIS FIX WILL BLOW HIM OUT OF THE WATER! DEPTH-BOMBS AWAY!

ABRUPTLY, FUSED NITRO-CANS EXPLODE UNDER WATER WITH SHATTERING VIOLENCE...

BATMAN!
WE'RE BEING DEPTH-BOMBED!

CUT THE MOTORS-- QUICK!

BOOM!

ANOTHER ONE!

THEY'RE TRACING US BY LISTENING TO OUR MOTORS! WITH THE MOTORS DEAD, WE'LL DRIFT DOWNRIVER WITHOUT THEIR HEARING US!

BUT THERE'S NO WATER NEAR THE MUSEUM-- EXCEPT WHAT'S IN THE TANKS OF ITS **AQUARIUM** EXHIBITS!

AS **BRUCE WAYNE**, I'M A TRUSTEE OF THAT MUSEUM-- AND I REMEMBER SOMETHING ABOUT IT THAT MAY HELP! BUT FIRST, I WANT TO MAKE SOME PREPARATIONS!

TENSE MOMENTS PASS-- TILL FINALLY, THE ROCKING EXPLOSIONS CEASE...

THEY'VE DRIVEN US OUT TO SEA! AND WE FIGURED THEY'D TRY FOR THE NEW PLATINUM APPARATUS THE **NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM** IS EXHIBITING TOMORROW!

WE'VE GOT TO COVER THAT

EXHIBITION, IN CASE THEY DO STRIKE HERE!

PRESENTLY...

WHAT'S THAT YOU'RE CONSTRUCTING?... LOOKS LIKE A VERY HEAVY-DUTY PRESSURE SUIT! BUT WITH THE GADGETS YOU'RE PUTTING INSIDE IT, YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY WEAR IT!

I'LL EXPLAIN LATER! RIGHT NOW, WE'D BETTER PUT ON OUR DIVING SUITS AND START FOR THE MUSEUM!



IN THE MEANTIME...

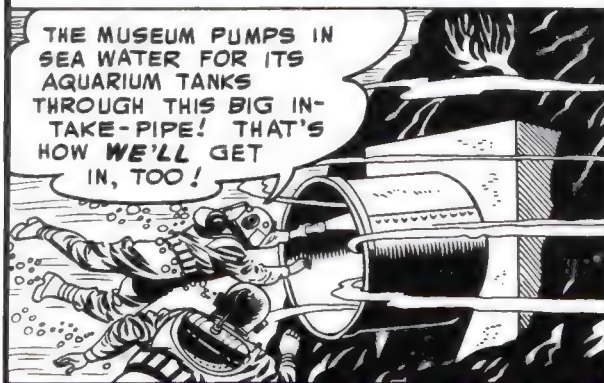
I'M NOT SURE WE DESTROYED THE **BATMARINE** WITH OUR DEPTH-BOMBS-- BUT ANYWAY, HE'S GOT NO WAY TO REACH THE MUSEUM!

DON'T WORRY... WHAT I HAVE IN MIND WILL RID US OF **BATMAN** FOREVER, IF HE KEEPS INTERFERING!



CAN THE DYNAMIC DUO REACH THE MUSEUM WITHOUT COMING OUT OF WATER? BATMAN HAS A WAY...

THE MUSEUM PUMPS IN SEA WATER FOR ITS AQUARIUM TANKS THROUGH THIS BIG INTAKE-PIPE! THAT'S HOW WE'LL GET IN, TOO!



AND IN THE DARK PIPE, TWO STRANGE SHAPES SWIM FORWARD WITH THE RACING CURRENT...

CAN YOU HEAR ME, **ROBIN**? WE MUST SWIM UP INTO THE BRANCH INTAKE-PIPE, OR WE'LL BE SUCKED ON INTO THE PUMPS!

YES, I HEAR YOU FINE ON OUR BELT-RADIO! I'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU!



SQUEEZING UP THROUGH GREAT PIPES, THE DUO REACHES THE MARBLE AQUARIUM HALL IN THE BASEMENT OF THE GREAT MUSEUM...

THE PLATINUM APPARATUS IS IN THE NEXT EXHIBIT HALL! IF THEY TRY FOR IT, THEY'LL HAVE TO COME THROUGH HERE!

WOW! IN THIS TANK, I FEEL LIKE A FISH ON EXHIBIT MYSELF!



BRRR... AN OCTOPUS IS A FINE ROOMMATE! GET AWAY FROM ME!

DON'T FRIGHTEN IT, **ROBIN**! YOU KNOW HOW EVEN A SMALL OCTOPUS DEFENDS ITSELF! AND... CROUCH DOWN... SOMEONE'S COMING!



WHILE AT THE OTHER END OF THE LONG HALL...

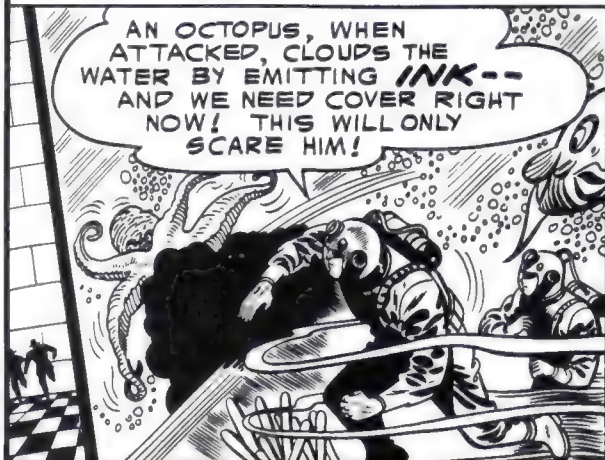
I THOUGHT I SAW SOME-ONE IN THAT BIG TANK OVER THERE!

YOU'RE NERVOUS ABOUT WATER NOW... BUT WE'LL LOOK OVER THE TANKS ANYHOW, TO MAKE SURE **BATMAN** ISN'T HERE!



KNOWING THAT DISCOVERY IS IMMINENT, **BATMAN** ACTS SWIFTLY...

AN OCTOPUS, WHEN ATTACKED, CLOUDS THE WATER BY EMITTING **INK--** AND WE NEED COVER RIGHT NOW! THIS WILL ONLY SCARE HIM!



THUS, BY THE TIME THE CROOKS REACH THE TANK...

THAT'S ALL YOU SAW-- AN OCTOPUS! AND IT'S MORE SCARED THAN YOU ARE, THE WAY IT COVERED UP! COME ON-- LET'S GET THAT PLATINUM!



GOT TO ACT FAST, **ROBIN**, AND THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY... I'M GOING BACK TO OPEN THE MAIN VALVES WIDE!



AND MINUTES LATER, FURTIVE CRIMESTERS GET A STARTLING SURPRISE...

HEY! THE TANKS ARE OVERFLOWING! THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG HERE!

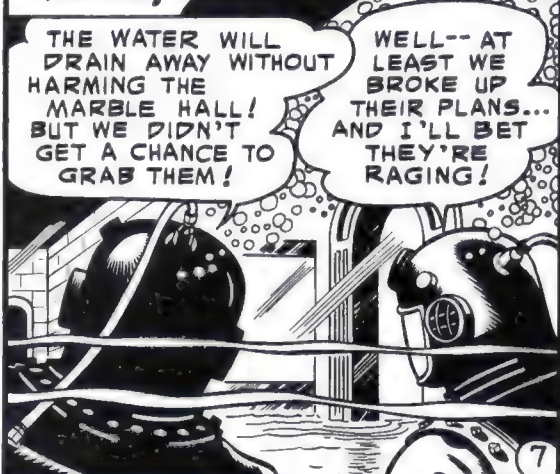
IT'S **BATMAN**! SOMEWHERE! HE'S FLOODING THE HALL SO HE CAN GET AT US! WE GOTTA SKIP OUT OF HERE, FAST!



AS THE ALARMED CROOKS FLEE, **BATMAN** CLOSES THE GIANT VALVES!

THE WATER WILL DRAIN AWAY WITHOUT HARMING THE MARBLE HALL! BUT WE DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO GRAB THEM!

WELL-- AT LEAST WE BROKE UP THEIR PLANS... AND I'LL BET THEY'RE RAGING!



IT'S FURIOUS MOBSTERS INDEED WHO LATER CONFRONT THEIR LEADER...

YOU AND YOUR SCHEMES! EVEN WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO COME OUT OF WATER, **BATMAN'S** TOO MUCH FOR YOU!

YOU THINK SO? I TOLD YOU I HAD A WAY TO GET **BATMAN** IF HE PERSISTED... NOW LISTEN TO IT!



AND WHEN AN EVIL PLAN HAS BEEN UNFOLDED, TEMPER'S CHANGE...

WHAT AN IDEA! IT'LL FIX **BATMAN** FOR SURE!

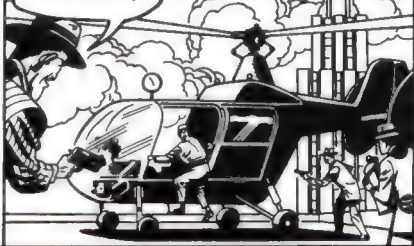
YEAH-- IF HE INTERFERES WITH US THIS TIME, NOTHING CAN SAVE HIM FROM DEATH!



WHAT IS STACY'S SINISTER SCHEME?

IT STARTS ON THE POST OFFICE ROOF, WHERE A MAIL-HELICOPTER PILOT PREPARES TO TAKE OFF...

INSTEAD OF MAIL, YOU'RE DELIVERING US-- TO THE ROOF OF THE **GOTHAM SKYSCRAPER!** AND WHEN WE'RE THROUGH THERE, YOU'LL TAKE US AWAY AGAIN!



AND WHEN THEY REACH THEIR DESTINATION...

I'LL KEEP HIM COVERED HERE!

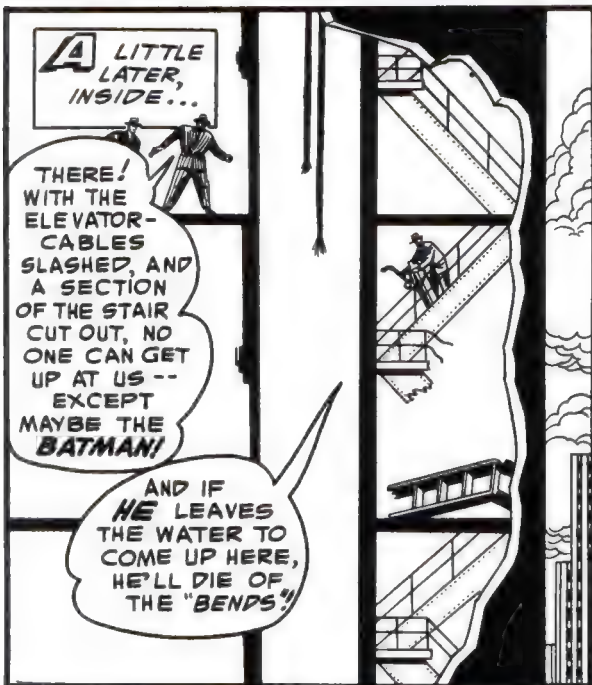
IT'LL TAKE US TIME TO BLAST OPEN THE **PLATINUM CORPORATION'S** BIG SAFE -- SO FIRST WE'LL MAKE SURE THE POLICE CAN'T INTERFERE!



A LITTLE LATER, INSIDE...

THERE! WITH THE ELEVATOR-CABLES SLASHED, AND A SECTION OF THE STAIR CUT OUT, NO ONE CAN GET UP AT US -- EXCEPT MAYBE THE **BATMAN!**

AND IF HE LEAVES THE WATER TO COME UP HERE, HE'LL DIE OF THE "BENDS!"



AND IRONICALLY, TO THE BATMARINE COMES THE FIRST ALARM...

NO, **ROBIN**, THIS ISN'T A PRESSURE-SUIT! IT'S SOMETHING I'VE BUILT IN CASE WE NEED IT! THE WAY IT WORKS IS...

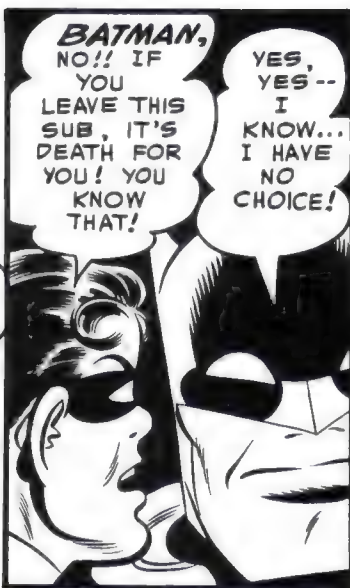
WAIT, **BATMAN!** THROUGH THE PERISCOPE, I CAN SEE THE **BAT-SIGNAL!**





THEY'RE FLASHING A MESSAGE IN POLICE CODE! **BANDITS BLASTING PLATINUM CORPORATION SAFE. STAIRS AND ELEVATORS BLOCKED!**

STACY FIGURES WE CAN'T GET UP THERE TO STOP HIM! BUT I **MUST** ANSWER THAT CALL!

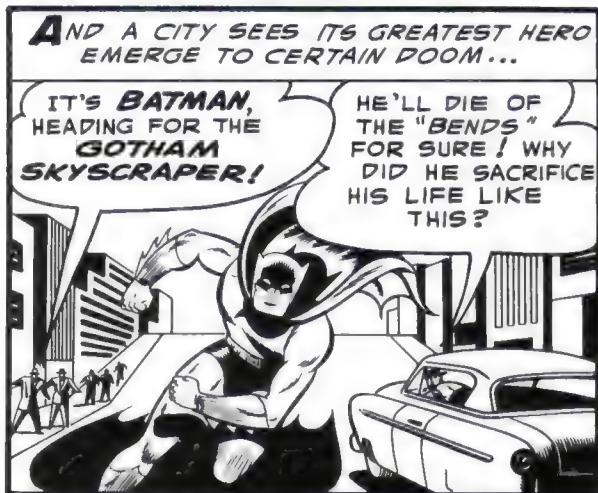


BATMAN, NO!! IF YOU LEAVE THIS SUB, IT'S DEATH FOR YOU! YOU KNOW THAT!

YES, YES-- I KNOW... I HAVE NO CHOICE!



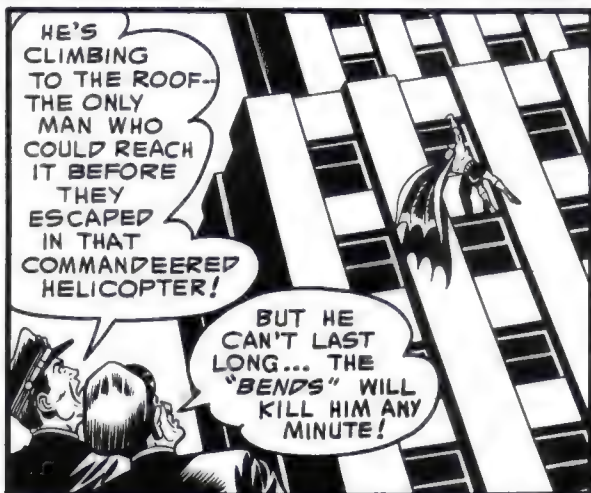
SO MOMENTS LATER, FROM THE TORPEDO-TUBE OF THE BATMARINE HURTLES A GRIM FIGURE...



AND A CITY SEES ITS GREATEST HERO EMERGE TO CERTAIN DOOM...

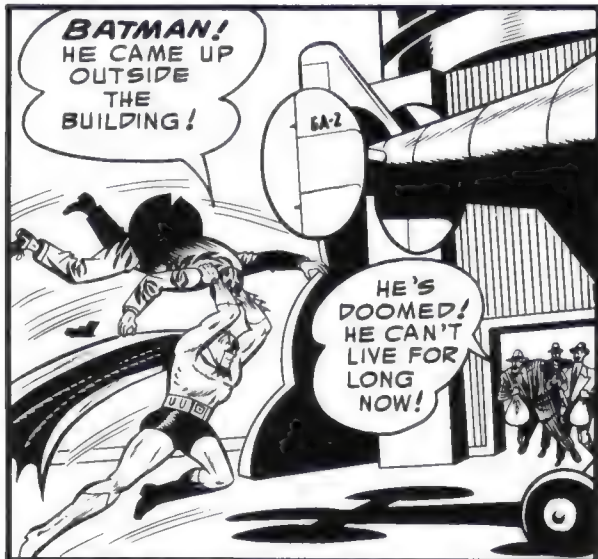
IT'S **BATMAN**, HEADING FOR THE **GOTHAM SKYSCRAPER!**

HE'LL DIE OF THE "BENDS" FOR SURE! WHY DID HE SACRIFICE HIS LIFE LIKE THIS?



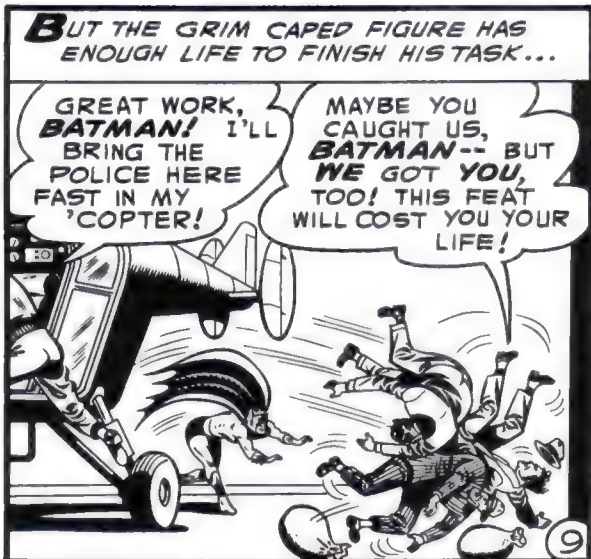
HE'S CLIMBING TO THE ROOF-- THE ONLY MAN WHO COULD REACH IT BEFORE THEY ESCAPED IN THAT **COMMANDEERED HELICOPTER!**

BUT HE CAN'T LAST LONG... THE "BENDS" WILL KILL HIM ANY MINUTE!



BATMAN! HE CAME UP OUTSIDE THE BUILDING!

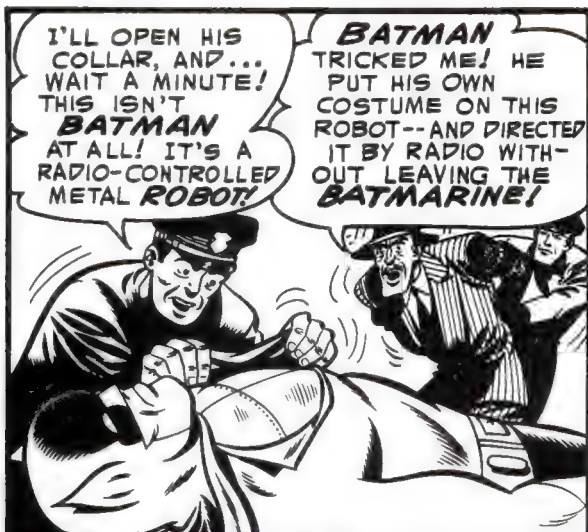
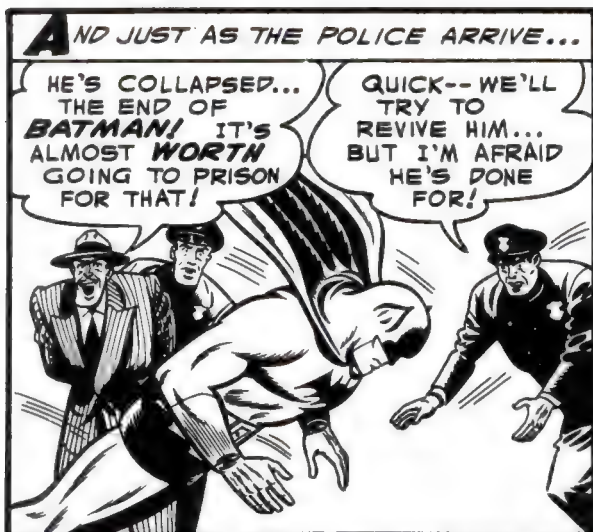
HE'S DOOMED! HE CAN'T LIVE FOR LONG NOW!



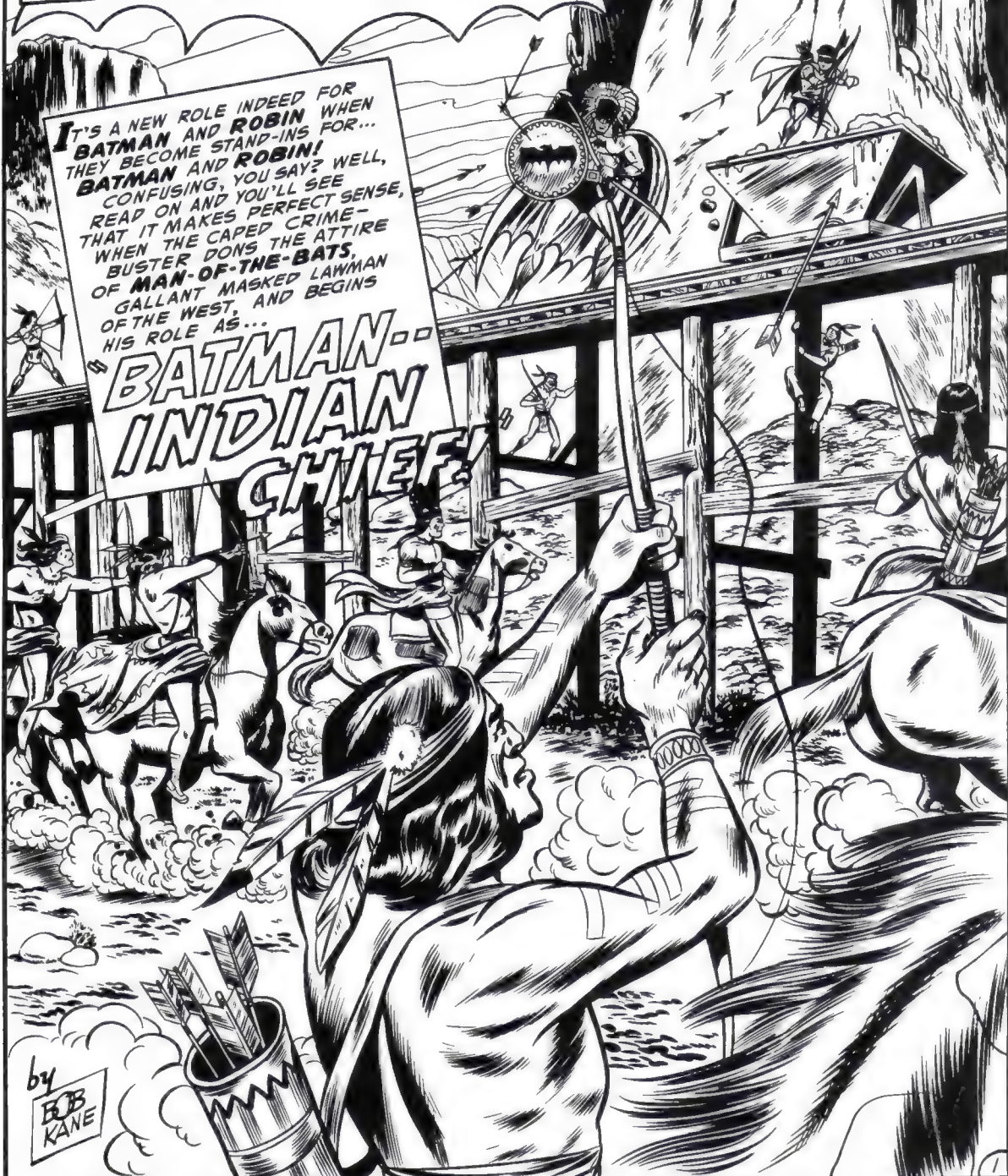
BUT THE GRIM CAPED FIGURE HAS ENOUGH LIFE TO FINISH HIS TASK...

GREAT WORK, **BATMAN!** I'LL BRING THE POLICE HERE FAST IN MY 'COPTER!

MAYBE YOU CAUGHT US, **BATMAN--** BUT **WE GOT YOU, TOO!** THIS FEAT WILL COST YOU YOUR LIFE!



BATMAN



ONE NIGHT, AS THE FAMED **BAT-PLANE** SOARS OVER MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN, FAR FROM **GOTHAM CITY**...

IN ABOUT TEN HOURS, WE'LL BE BACK HOME! I CAN'T SAY I WON'T BE GLAD!

SAME HERE! THESE DISTANT MISSIONS MAKE ME HOMESICK!



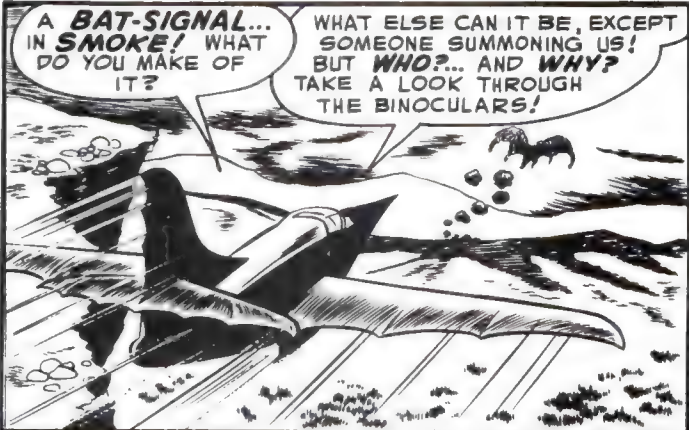
INSIDE ARE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** WITH THEIR MASKS FLUNG BACK, REVEALING THE FACES OF **BRUCE WAYNE** AND **DICK GRAYSON**...

GREAT GUNS! AM I SEEING THINGS? LOOK OVER THERE!



A **BAT-SIGNAL**... IN **SMOKE**! WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT?

WHAT ELSE CAN IT BE, EXCEPT SOMEONE SUMMONING US! BUT **WHO?**... AND **WHY?** TAKE A LOOK THROUGH THE BINOCULARS!



THIS GETS MORE INCREDIBLE BY THE MINUTE! THERE'S A BOY DOWN THERE WHO LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE **ME**!



STUNNED BY THESE SURPRISING EVENTS, THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS HURRIEDLY LAND THE BAT-PLANE IN A SHELTERED CLEARING, AND...

A **BATSIGNAL** IN THE FORM OF **SMOKE**-- A BOY WHO LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE YOU, **ROBIN**... THIS CALLS FOR AN IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION! COME ON!



AND DEEP IN THE WOODS, STILL ANOTHER SURPRISE... A CANOE BEARING A **BAT-SYMBOL**, AND A CAVERN NOT UNLIKE THEIR OWN **BAT-CAVE**!

BUT WHAT CAN THIS MEAN? LISTEN... VOICES INSIDE THE CAVE! LET'S HAVE A LOOK!







HMM... WE'VE RUN INTO SIMILAR PROBLEMS, TRYING TO PROTECT **OUR** REAL IDENTITIES! BUT **LITTLE RAVEN** IS RIGHT... YOU CAN'T APPEAR AS **MAN-OF-THE-BATS** WITH THAT WOUNDED SHOULDER!



THEN WHAT CAN BE DONE? IF HE **DOESN'T** APPEAR, ALL SHALL KNOW IT IS BECAUSE OF THE SPEAR WOUND... AND ALL SHALL KNOW MY TRUE IDENTITY!

ARE YOU THINKING THE SAME THING I AM, **ROBIN**?

I'D SAY SO!



GREAT EAGLE, SUPPOSING **ROBIN** AND I PLAYED THE ROLES OF **CHIEF MAN-OF-THE-BATS** AND **LITTLE RAVEN**?

THAT WOULD INDEED SAVE THE SITUATION! HERE... WE MUST GET YOU INTO MY COSTUME-- AND ACQUAINT YOU WITH MY UTILITY BELT!



THE BELT CONTAINS DYES--WHICH YOU CAN APPLY TO YOUR SKINS!



THUS, WITHIN A FEW SHORT MINUTES...

THERE! THE DISGUISE IS COMPLETE! NONE COULD GUESS YOU ARE NOT ME! BUT YOU MUST TAKE ONE PRECAUTION...

YOU MUST PERFORM **ONLY** IN INDIAN FASHION! IF NOT, PEOPLE WILL GUESS IMMEDIATELY THAT YOU ARE STAND-INS FOR US!

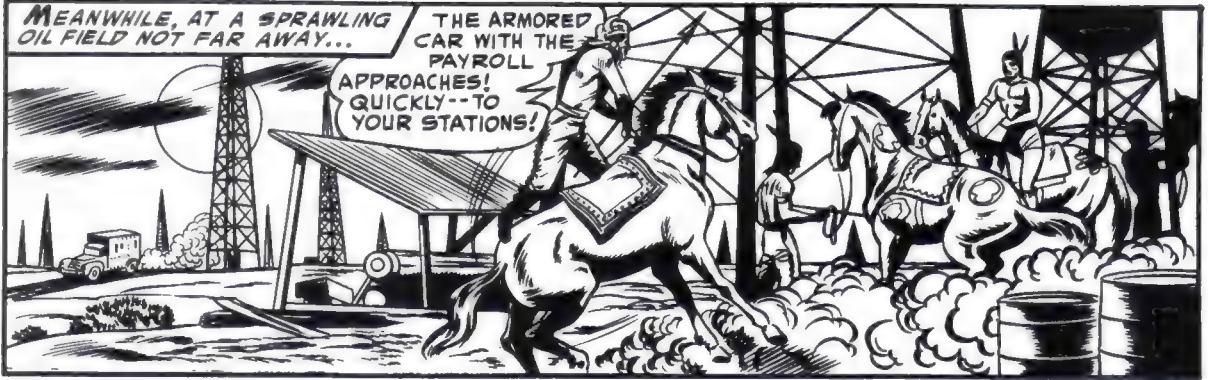
WELL, OUR JOB'S CUT OUT FOR US! LET'S HEAD FOR OUR FIRST ENCOUNTER WITH **BLACK ELK'S RAIDERS**!



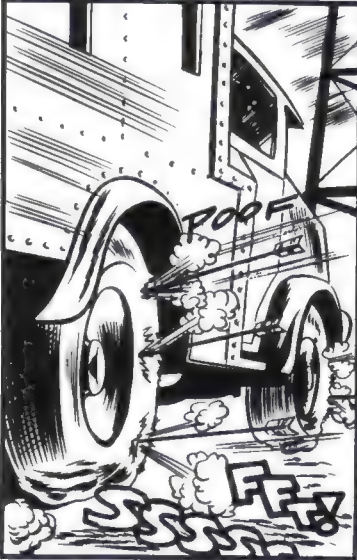
MEANWHILE, AT A SPRAWLING OIL FIELD NOT FAR AWAY...

THE ARMORED CAR WITH THE PAYROLL

APPROACHES! QUICKLY--TO YOUR STATIONS!



A BOW TWANGS, THEN ANOTHER--AND ANOTHER...



SWERVING, THE CAR SMASHES INTO THE BASE OF THE DERRICK...

THEY'LL NEVER CRACK THROUGH OUR ARMOR! LET 'EM HAVE IT!



BUT BEFORE THE GUARDS CAN OPEN FIRE, FLAMING SHAFTS STREAK THROUGH THE GUN SLOTS...

YOW! ARROWS SATURATED WITH KEROSENE! THEY'RE SETTING THE CAR ON FIRE!



RUSHING OUT FRANTICALLY, THE GUARDS ARE QUICKLY SUBDUED...

NOW--THE PAYROLL! MAKE HASTE-- BEFORE THE FLAMES CONSUME IT!



BUT, AT THAT MOMENT, ATTRACTED BY THE BLAZE BELOW, TWO FIGURES SWING FROM ONE OF THE TOWERING DERRICKS...





AND AS THE RAIDERS GALLOP OFF...

THEY'RE GETTING AWAY-- BUT PUTTING THAT FIRE OUT IS MORE IMPORTANT RIGHT NOW! IF THE FLAMES EVER REACH THE STORAGE TANKS-- AS **BLACK ELK** SAID-- **EVERYTHING** WILL GO UP!

A TWO-MAN **BUCKET BRIGADE** OUGHT TO TURN THE TRICK!



SHORTLY...

INJUNS--YOU SAVED THE PAYROLL! THANKS!

WE HAVE OTHER WORK NOW! WE ARE GOING AFTER **BLACK ELK**!



LATER, AS THEY SCAN THE NEARBY TERRAIN...

COME ON... WE'LL GET THE **BATPLANE** AND FOLLOW THEM!

NO! WE'VE GOT TO HANDLE THIS LIKE **INDIANS**--REMEMBER! HERE'S THEIR TRAIL-- HEADING SOUTH TOWARD THE RIVER!



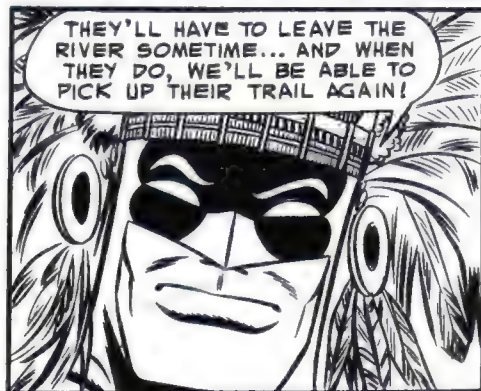
AND AT THE RIVER, WHERE, AT FIRST, THE TRAIL SEEMS LOST FOREVER...

SEE BELOW, ON THE RIVER'S BOTTOM? SMALL STONES AND PEBBLES HAVE BEEN OVERTURNED! THAT PATTERN CONTINUES SOUTHWARD!

THE STONES WERE DISTURBED BY HORSES' FEET! EVEN THOUGH THE ACTUAL TRACKS ARE WASHED AWAY-- WE NOW KNOW WHICH DIRECTION **BLACK ELK** TOOK!



THEY'LL HAVE TO LEAVE THE RIVER SOMETIME... AND WHEN THEY DO, WE'LL BE ABLE TO PICK UP THEIR TRAIL AGAIN!



BUT SOME MILES FURTHER ON, THE TRACKS EMERGE FROM THE RIVER ONLY TO END ABRUPTLY, AT THE EDGE OF A VAST, STONY FLATNESS...

THEY HEADED ACROSS THE LAVA FLATS! HORSES DON'T LEAVE PRINTS IN HARD STONE! WE'RE BEATEN!

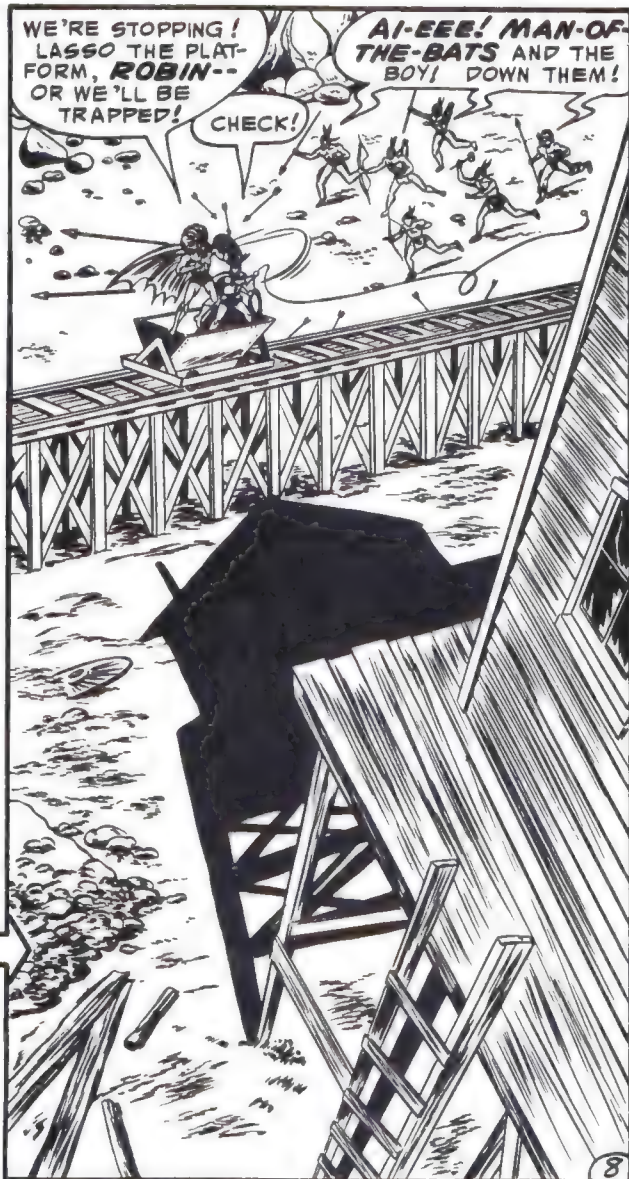
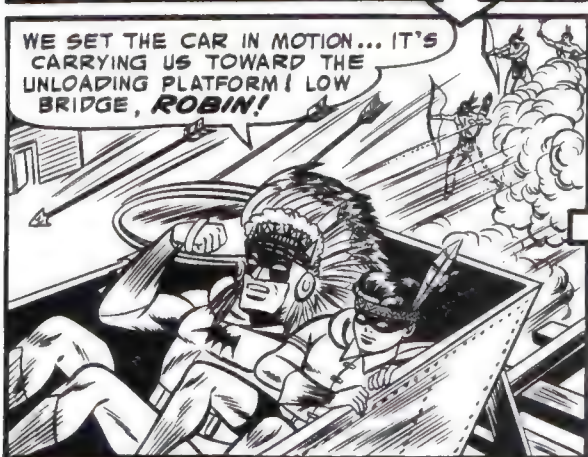
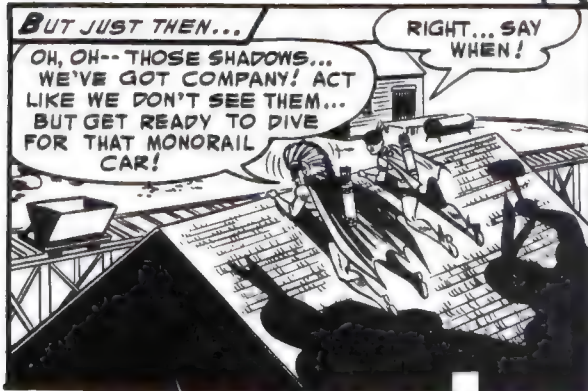
NO! NOT YET! AGAIN WE'VE GOT TO PLAY INDIAN! **GREAT EAGLE** WOULD FIND THE TRAIL... SO WILL WE!



INDIAN PONIES DON'T WEAR HORSESHOES... BUT SEE THESE SMALL SCRAPINGS OF BONY SUBSTANCE? THAT WAS LEFT BY THE **FEET** OF THEIR HORSES!

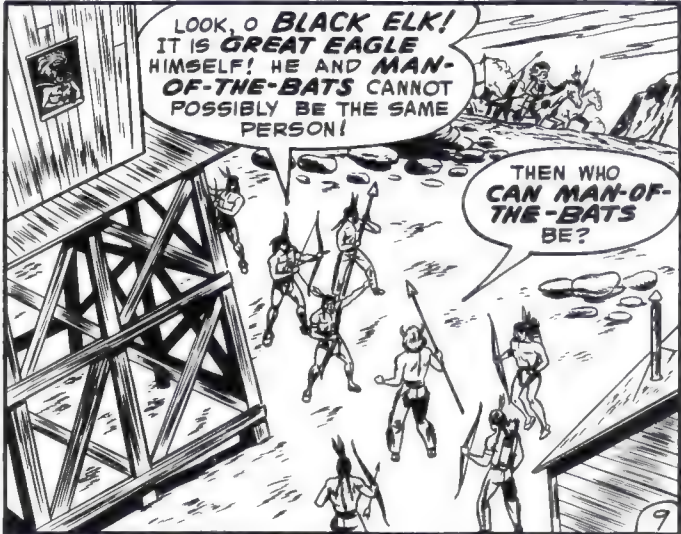
THEN WE CAN **STILL** FOLLOW THEM! **GREAT EAGLE** SHOULD BE PROUD OF US FOR FIGURING THIS ONE OUT!



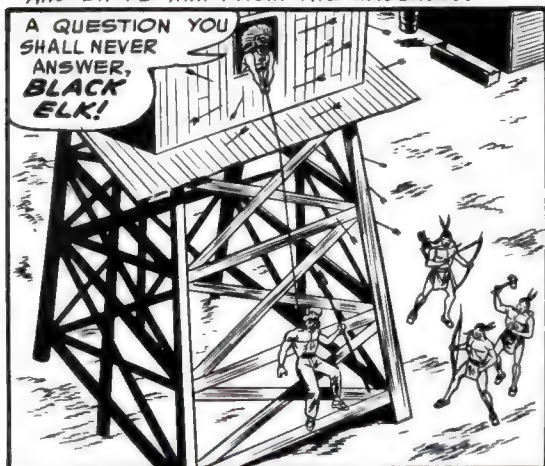




AS THE PELLETS STRIKE THE FLOOR AND BURST, THICK CLOUDS BILLOW SKYWARD...



BUT BEFORE THE INDIAN OUTLAW CAN SAY MORE, A VINE ROPE SETTLES ABOUT HIM, AND LIFTS HIM FROM THE GROUND...



A QUESTION YOU SHALL NEVER ANSWER, **BLACK ELK!**



DON'T LET ME FALL...

THEN TELL YOUR RAIDERS TO LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS, AND SUBMIT TO **GREAT EAGLE!** AND TALK FAST, MY HANDS GROW TIRED!

AND SO, PRESENTLY...

MANY JAILS ARE ANXIOUS TO ACCOMMODATE **BLACK ELK!** THANKS TO YOU, **MAN-OF-THE-BATS**, HE AND HIS RAIDERS SOON WILL BE BEHIND BARS!

I WONDER WHO YOU ARE, **MAN-OF-THE-BATS!** SOME DAY, I SHALL FIND OUT!

MUCH LATER, BACK AT **GREATER EAGLE'S** CAVE...

YOUR REAL IDENTITY REMAINS A SECRET... BUT NOW WE MUST LEAVE! THE **BAT-PLANE** IS NEARBY, AND WE HAVE MANY MILES TO COVER TONIGHT!

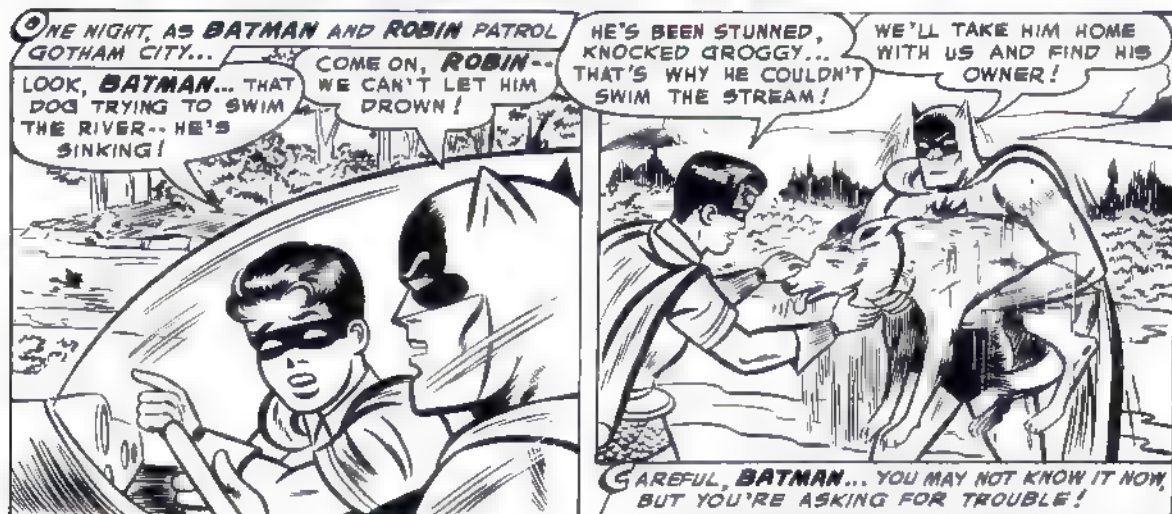
HAD I NOT SEEN YOUR SMOKE SIGNALS, **BLACK ELK** MAY HAVE LEARNED OF YOUR IDENTITY! BUT THAT, TOO, REMAINS A SECRET! FAREWELL, **BATMAN!**

AND AS THE **BAT-PLANE** TAKES OFF FOR **GOTHAM CITY...**

WHO KNOW?... MAYBE ONE DAY, MY SON, WE CAN GO TO THE GREAT CITY AND DO **THEM** A FAVOR! WE SHALL SEE!



THE END



SOON, IN THE SECRET **BAT-CAVE**, A SWITCH TO THEIR EVERYDAY IDENTITIES AS WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

HE'S FEELING PERKIER NOW... WE CAN PUT A LOST-AND-FOUND NOTICE IN ALL THE MORNING PAPERS!

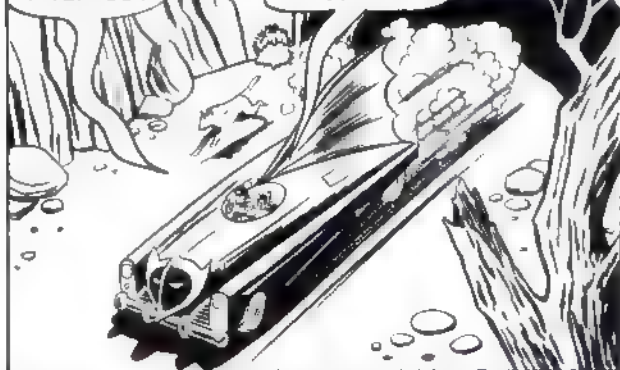
AND SINCE I CAN'T GIVE THE **BAT-CAVE** AS MY ADDRESS, I'LL ADVERTISE AS BRUCE WAYNE!



BUT A GRATEFUL HOUND CAN PROVE **TOO** FRIENDLY, AS THE DUO LEARNS SHORTLY AFTERWARD, WHILE ANSWERING A CALL FROM POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

THE DOG-- HE'S COMING AFTER US!

NO TIME TO TAKE HIM BACK NOW! LET HIM IN THE CAR, AND YOU CAN HOLD HIM!



SO THE FOLLOWING DAY... THIS AD IN ALL THE PAPERS OUGHT TO GET RESULTS!

IN A WAY, I'LL BE SORRY WHEN HIS OWNER TURNS UP! I'VE GROWN FOND OF THAT POOCH--AND HE SEEMS TO LIKE US, TOO!



TROUBLE IS, ANYONE SEEING THIS DOG WILL RECOGNIZE HIM, FROM THAT FOREHEAD MARK, AS THE DOG BRUCE WAYNE ADVERTISED! IT'D IMPERIL OUR SECRET IDENTITIES!

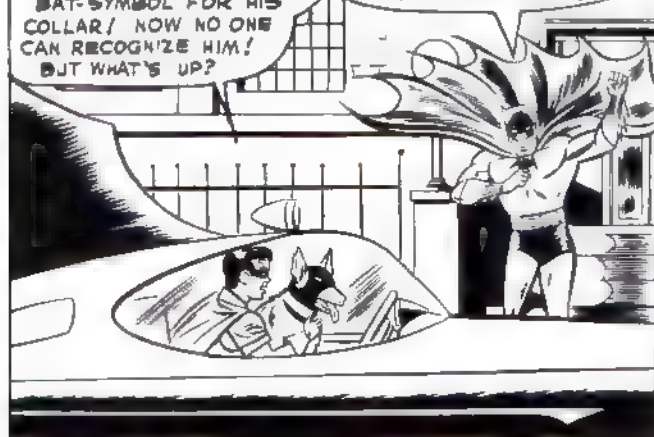
I'LL FIX THAT WHILE YOU'RE CHECKING WITH HEADQUARTERS!



SO AWHILE LATER...

I CUT HIM THIS MASK FROM OUR BLACK CLOTH TOOL BAG.. AND MADE A BAT-SYMBOL FOR HIS COLLAR! NOW NO ONE CAN RECOGNIZE HIM! BUT WHAT'S UP?

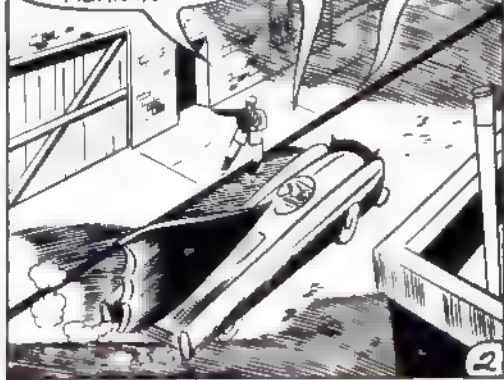
BERT BOWERS, AN ESCAPED CONVICTED, WAS SPOTTED GOING INTO THE **STEVENS WAREHOUSE!** WE'VE GOT TO HURRY!



WITHIN MINUTES, THE MIGHTY **BAT-MOBILE** STREAKS TO ITS DESTINATION...

I SPOTTED BOWERS SNEAKING IN THERE, AND CALLED IN AN ALARM!

COME ON, ROBIN! YOU'D BETTER COME, TOO, PUP!



AND INSIDE THE SHADY STORAGE HOUSE, WHERE DEADLY DANGER LURKS...

THIS IS WHERE THEY STORE EQUIPMENT FOR THE ANNUAL CITY CHARITY CIRCUS! BOWERS WON'T BE EASY TO FIND AMONG THEM!

HERE, HANG ONTO THE DOG, WILL YOU? I DON'T WANT HIM TO GET HURT!

MUST LAY LOW TILL THEY'RE UNDER SOME BIG, HEAVY PROP!

A MOMENT LATER...

SEE ANYTHING, BATMAN?

NOT YET! HEY-- WHERE'S THE DOG GOING? HE SEEMS TO... **ROBIN!** THAT CLOWN FIGURE-- LOOK OUT!



AS BATMAN LEAPS TO ROBIN'S RESCUE, A SECOND MASKED FIGURE GOES INTO FLASHING ACTION!

HE WON'T GO FAR-- WE'VE GOT A HELPER!

THANKS, **BATMAN!** THOSE CLOWN-FIGURES ARE BUILT HEAVY... IT WOULD'VE CRUSHED ME! BUT BOWERS IS GETTING AWAY!

RASH



LEGGO, YOU--YOU **BAT-HOUND!**

LOOK--HE'S GOT BOWERS BY THE COAT-SLEEVE, HOLDING HIM IN TRUE POLICE DOG STYLE!

AND THAT GIVES US TIME TO GRAB HIM! GOOD WORK, BOY!

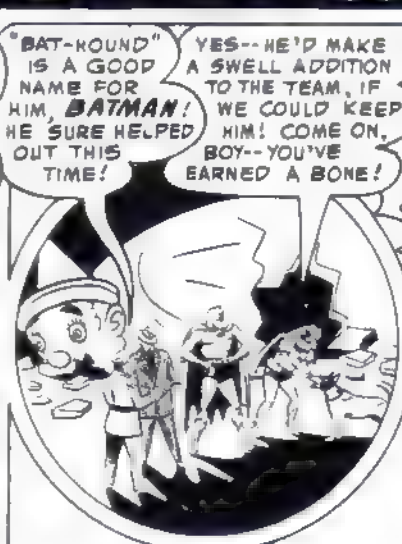
"**BAT-HOUND**" IS A GOOD NAME FOR HIM, **BATMAN!** HE SURE HELPED OUT THIS TIME!

YES--HE'D MAKE A SWELL ADDITION TO THE TEAM, IF WE COULD KEEP HIM! COME ON, BOY--YOU'VE EARNED A BONE!

BUT UPON RETURNING HOME AND CHANGING IDENTITIES...

YES, MR. WAYNE, THE DOG YOU ADVERTISED LOOKS LIKE JOHN WILKER'S DOG, ACE! WILKER LIVES IN A COTTAGE OUT IN THIS SUBURB!

THANK YOU FOR CALLING. WE'LL GO RIGHT OUT AND CHECK WITH MR. WILKER!



PRESENTLY, IN AN ISOLATED SUBURB...

YES, THAT'S JOHN WILKER'S DOG-- AND THERE'S HIS COTTAGE! HE BOUGHT THIS TRAINED DOG BECAUSE HE LIVES ALONE AND IS AWAY FROM HOME ALL DAY!

THANKS-- WE'LL RETURN HIM TO MR. WILKER AT ONCE!



BUT IN THE WILKER COTTAGE, THEY COME UPON A SINISTER MYSTERY...

IT LOOKS LIKE WILKER WAS OVERPOWERED AND TAKEN AWAY! ACE, DEFENDING HIM, MUST HAVE BEEN STUNNED--THEN, LATER, TRIED TO FOLLOW HIS MASTER!

JOHN WILKER WAS EMPLOYED BY THE GOTHAM PRINTING AND ENGRAVING COMPANY! WE'LL CHECK THERE!



AT THE PRINTING FIRM, THE MYSTERY DEEPENS...

NO, MR. WAYNE, JOHN WILKER HASN'T BEEN TO WORK FOR TWO DAYS! AND WE NEED HIM... HE'S OUR MOST SKILLED ENGRAVER!

WELL, I'LL KEEP THIS DOG SAFELY FOR HIM!



BACK IN THE BAT-CAVE, HOWEVER, ALFRED THE BUTLER--THE ONLY PERSON WHO KNOWS THE DUO'S SECRET IDENTITY--POINTS OUT A PERIL...

WHAT IF SOMEONE UNMASKS THIS HOUND AND TRACES HIM BACK TO BRUCE WAYNE?

I'LL TAKE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST THAT, ALFRED! WE'VE GOT TO FIND JOHN WILKER, AND HIS DOG CAN HELP US!



BUT LATER, A SUMMONING SYMBOL INTERRUPTS BATMAN'S PLANS...

THE BAT-SIGNAL IS FLASHING... BUT WHERE'S BAT-HOUND?

WE CAN'T WAIT FOR HIM... COME ON!



LOOK--THERE HE GOES! AS SOON AS HE SAW US RACE TO THE BATMOBILE, HE REALIZED WE MUST BE GOING TO HEADQUARTERS--JUST LIKE LAST TIME!

YES, TRAINED WATCHDOGS LEARN FAST!



MINUTES LATER, IN THE OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER GORDON...

A BAT-HOUND? HE MAY BE HELPFUL ON THIS JOB!

A BURGLARY AT A PAPER COMPANY? HOW CAN HE HELP US THERE, COMMISSIONER?



THAT'S NOT WHY I CALLED YOU! A WOMAN'S 4-YEAR-OLD BOY HAS WANDERED AWAY IN THE LYNNWOOD SECTION, AND WE CAN'T SEEM TO LOCATE HIM ANYWHERE!

COME ON, ROBIN!



BUT OUTSIDE, BATMAN, MAKES A QUICK CHANGE OF PLAN...

WITH BAT-HOUND, YOU CAN LOOK FOR THAT YOUNGSTER, WHILE I COVER THIS PAPER BURGLARY!

BUT STOLEN PAPER ISN'T IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO... WELL-- ALL RIGHT, IF YOU SAY SO, BATMAN!



AND IN A NEARBY RESIDENTIAL SECTION, BAT-HOUND TAKES THE TRAIL IN A WAY NO HUMAN SLEUTH COULD...

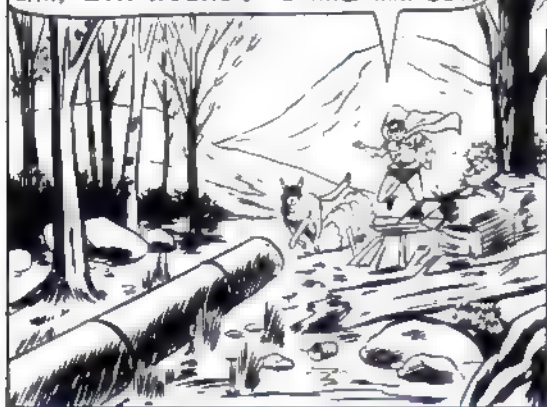
THIS IS LITTLE ORVIE'S COAT, BAT-HOUND... NOW GO FIND HIM!

THE POLICE CAN'T LOCATE HIM ANYWHERE... EVERY INCH OF THE PARK'S BEEN SEARCHED!



BUT A DOG CAN COME UP WITH UNUSUAL PLACES TO SEARCH...

SO HE CRAWLED INTO THAT DRAINPIPE, EH? I CAN'T SQUEEZE IN, BUT YOU CAN, BAT-HOUND! BRING HIM OUT!



GOOD WORK, BAT-HOUND... WE'LL TURN HIM OVER TO HIS MOTHER AND JOIN BATMAN AT THAT PAPER FACTORY! WONDER WHY HE WAS SO INTERESTED IN STOLEN PAPER ANYHOW?

NICE DOGGIE!



A PUZZLING PROBLEM, INDEED, AS THE BOY WONDER JOINS BATMAN AT THE PAPER MILL...

YOU SAY ONLY ONE BALE OF THAT PARTICULAR PAPER WAS STOLEN?

YES, THAT'S ALL! I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT--THE PAPER'S NOT THAT VALUABLE--AND... WH-WHAT'S THAT?



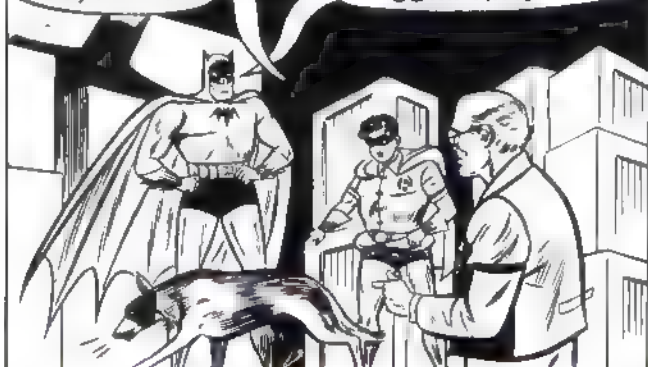
WHY, BAT-HOUND... WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?

I WAS RIGHT ABOUT THIS PAPER ROBBERY! BAT-HOUND PROVES IT!



BAT-HOUND HAS SCENTED THE BURGLARS' TRAIL HERE! BUT WHY SHOULD THAT ENRAGE HIM SO, UNLESS...

UNLESS THEY'RE THE SAME MEN WHO STUNNED HIM AND ABDUCTED HIS MASTER, JOHN WILKER! AND IF MY THEORY IS RIGHT, THEY'LL STRIKE NEXT AT THE BIG EASTERN PRINTING-INK COMPANY!



MOMENTS LATER...

BUT WHY SHOULD CROOKS WANT PAPER AND INK? I DON'T GET IT!

IT WAS SPECIAL PAPER THEY STOLE, ROBIN--THE KIND VALUABLE BONDS ARE PRINTED ON! WITH WILKER TO ENGRAVE AND PRINT FOR THEM, AND THE RIGHT PAPER AND INK, THEY CAN COUNTERFEIT BONDS!



AND WHEN THEY REACH THE INK FACTORY...

BAT-HOUND HAS A VERY GOOD REASON...

BAT-HOUND! COME BACK! HE'S GONE WILD, FOR SOME REASON...

EASTERN PRINTING



THAT MASKED DOG... IT'S MY OWN DOG--ACE!

THAT MUTT AGAIN? THIS CAN OF INK WILL KNOCK HIM COLD!



AND WHEN THE DYNAMIC DUO BURSTS IN, THEY FIND THE LAWBREAKERS FOREWARNED...

HOLD IT, **BATMAN**--OR WILKER GETS A SLUG!

WE CAN'T ENDANGER AN INNOCENT MAN... THEY'VE GOT US, **ROBIN**!



SO AWHILE LATER...

LUCKY WE BROUGHT WILKER SO HE COULD PICK OUT THE PAPER AND INK WE'D NEED! NOW WE'LL GO BACK AND START THE JOB!

AND WE CAN BE SURE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** WON'T BOTHER US WHILE WE PRINT OFF A FORTUNE IN FAKE BONDS!



AFTER A BRIEF RIDE TO THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY...

BAT-HOUND WAS ONLY STUNNED... HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT!

YEAH... THEN MAYBE HE'LL COME OUT AND HELP YOU OUT! HA, HA!

AND INSIDE...

WAIT... IF YOU HARM **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, I WON'T PRINT YOUR BONDS, NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO TO ME!

ALL RIGHT, BOYS, TIE THEIR ANKLES AND SHOVE THEM IN THAT BACK ROOM! YOU GET BUSY WITH THE PRINTING, WILKER, AND WE WON'T TOUCH 'EM!



WHEN THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTERS ARE ALONE...

BAT-HOUND SHOULD BE AWAKE BY NOW! I ONLY WISH HE **COULD** COME HERE--BUT EVEN HE CAN'T TRAIL A CAR!

MAYBE WE CAN CALL HIM! IF I CAN SQUIRM AROUND AND GET THAT LIGHTED LAMP INTO THE FIRE-PLACE...

DEFTLY, **BATMAN** LOWERS THE LAMP TO THE FLOOR--AND THEN...

THAT'S IT... TEAR MY **BAT-EMBLEM** OFF WITH YOUR TEETH, THEN SQUIRM OVER AND DROP IT ON TOP OF THE LIGHTED LAMP!

... A **BAT-SIGNAL**! AND SINCE IT'S RIGHT OVERHEAD, THE CROOKS CAN'T GLIMPSE IT!

I GET IT! I'LL CREATE...



FAR AWAY, A FOUR-FOOTED ALLY SEES THE SIGNAL THAT HE HAS LEARNED TO ANSWER...



SOON, OUTSIDE THE PRISONERS' ROOM, A GRIMLY SILENT SHAPE APPEARS...

GOOD BOY!
YOU DID IT!

COME ON, **BAT-HOUND**... YOU CAN FORCE OPEN THAT CASEMENT WINDOW IF YOU PRESS HARD!



THAT'S IT...NOW CHEW THE ROPE APART! ONCE I'M FREE, I CAN UNTIE **BATMAN**!



SECONDS LATER, A TERRIFYING TRIO BURSTS FORTH...

BATMAN AND ROBIN-- FREE! AND THAT DOG...



THE BRIEF BATTLE ENDS ABRUPTLY--AND WHEN POLICE AND REPORTERS ARRIVE...

YES, THEY CAPTURED JOHN WILKER TO FORCE HIM TO HELP THEM PRINT FAKE BONDS!

BUT THAT DOG OF WILKER'S IS THE ONE BRUCE WAYNE ADVERTISED! AND HE'S YOUR **BAT-HOUND**! DOES THAT MEAN...?



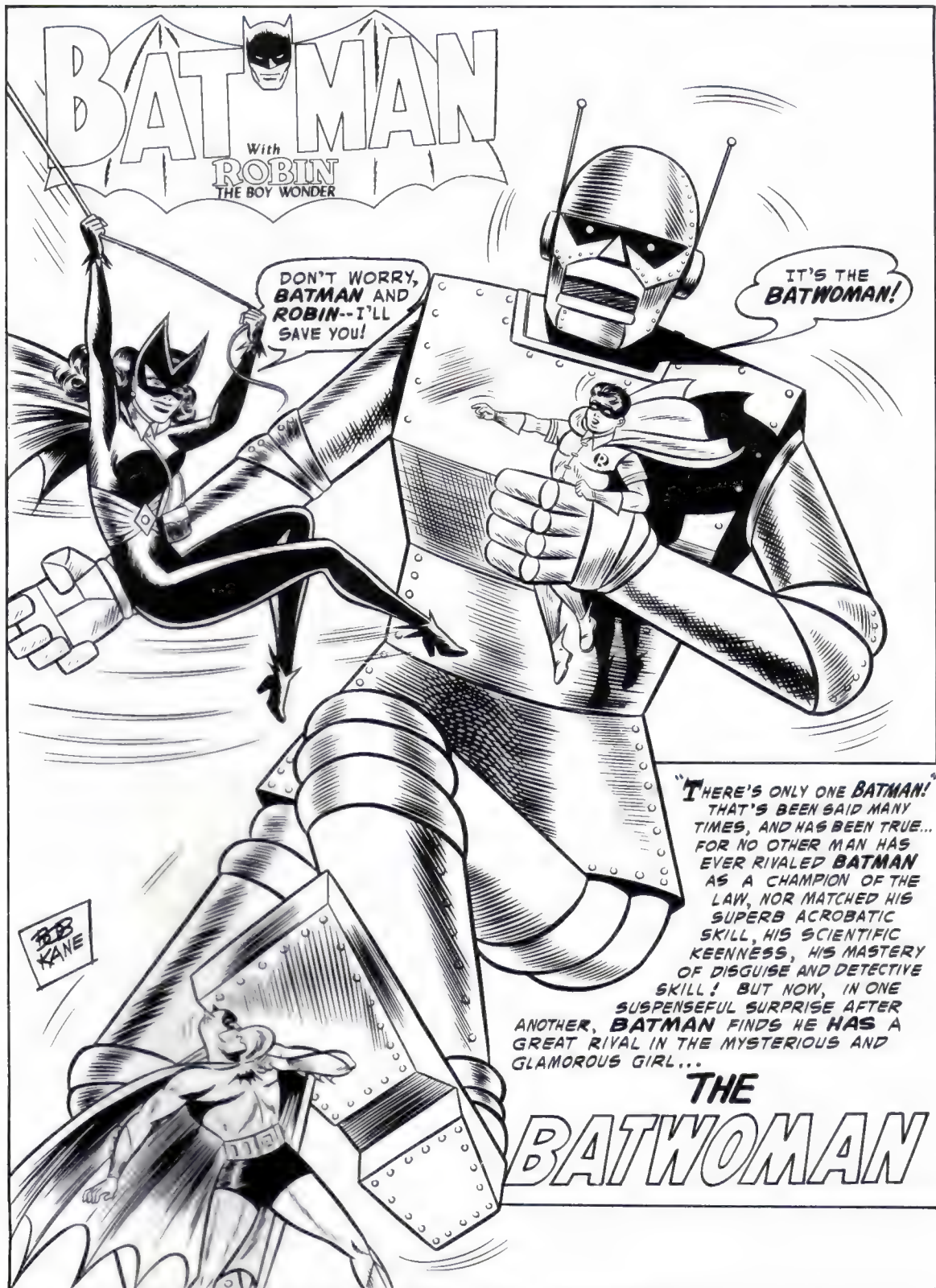
...THAT I'M BRUCE WAYNE? NO, I GOT THE DOG FROM BRUCE TO HELP ME FIND WILKER--AS THIS SNAPSHOT **ROBIN** TOOK WILL SHOW YOU!

AND THEY CAN'T KNOW THAT **ALFRED** WORE THE **BATMAN** COSTUME WHEN I SNAPPED THAT PICTURE ALIBI!

HE'S A GREAT DOG, MR. WILKER! IT WAS **HE** WHO REALLY SAVED US!

AND IF YOU EVER WANT TO BE A **BAT-HOUND** AGAIN, ACE--THE POSITION IS OPEN!





ACROSS GOTHAM CITY, ONE NIGHT, STABS AN EERIE SYMBOL THAT CATAPULTS A MAN AND A BOY INTO DYNAMO ACTION...

THE BAT-SIGNAL-- AND T'S SWEEPING SOUTH-WESTWARD!

QUICK, WE'LL CHANGE AND GET GOING!



IN THE BAT-CAVE UNDER HIS MANSION, WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON, SWIFTLY BECOME-- **BATMAN AND ROBIN!**

THE SIGNAL WAS SWEEPING TOWARD THE NEW AIR TERMINAL! SOMEONE THERE MUST HAVE PHONED IN AN ALARM!

WE CAN BE THERE IN MINUTES!



BUT ANOTHER CHAMPION OF THE LAW IS ALREADY THERE!



A FLASHING FEMININE FIGURE ANSWERS THAT QUICKLY...

HERE'S A TRIP AROUND THE WORLD FOR YOU--THE FAST WAY!

SHE MADE THE GLOBE SPIN AND KNOCKED 'EM OUT! WHY, I'LL--



BUT AS THE ENRAGED THIEF CHARGES, THE AMAZING **BATWOMAN** EXTRACTS A LARGE POWDER-PUFF FROM HER BAG AND...

SHE SHOOK A WHOLE CLOUD OF POWDER IN MY FACE--ACHOO-- CAN'T STOP SNEEZING!



WE'VE GOT THE FARE RECEIPTS-- BUT ISN'T THAT **BATMAN?**

NO-- WHY, IT'S A **BAT-WOMAN!** HA, HA! WHAT CAN SHE DO?

THEN, SWIFTLY TAKING SLENDER BRACELETS FROM HER WRISTS...

MY CHARM BRACELETS ARE REALLY DISGUISED STEEL HANDCUFFS THAT'LL HOLD YOU TWO LIKE A CHARM UNTIL POLICE COME!

BATMAN, LOOK! THAT GIRL'S CAPTURED TWO THIEVES! WHY-- SHE'S A **BATWOMAN!**



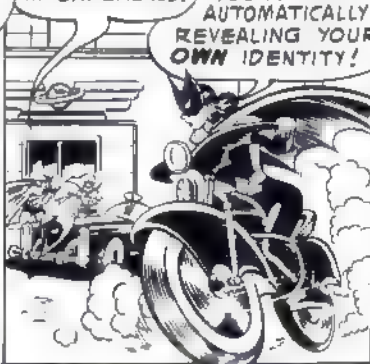
AS THE DYNAMIC DUO'S GLAMOROUS NEW RIVAL STARTS TO RACE AWAY.

WE'LL TRAIL HER HOME AND FIND OUT WHO SHE IS-- THAT WAY WE CAN STOP HER INTERFERENCE!

BATMAN, I GIVE YOU FAIR WARNING-- IF YOU EVER SHOULD PENETRATE MY SECRET, YOU'LL BE AUTOMATICALLY REVEALING YOUR OWN IDENTITY!

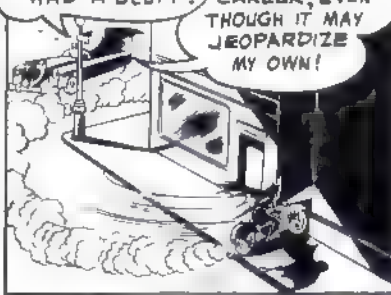
AND MOMENTS LATER, AS BATWOMAN RIDES HER BAT-CYCLE INTO A NARROW ALLEY...

YOU'RE WRONG, BATMAN. THE LAW SAYS "NO MAN CAN WEAR IT" I'M A WOMAN!



WE CAN'T FOLLOW HER THROUGH THAT NARROW ALLEY! BATMAN, DO YOU SUPPOSE HER WARNING WAS A BLUFF?

BLUFF OR NOT, WE'VE GOT TO TRACK DOWN HER IDENTITY AND STOP HER DANGEROUS CAREER, EVEN THOUGH IT MAY JEOPARDIZE MY OWN!



BUT THE NEXT NIGHT, WHEN THE DYNAMIC DUO PATROLS GOTHAM CITY IN A SEARCH FOR THE MYSTERIOUS BATWOMAN...

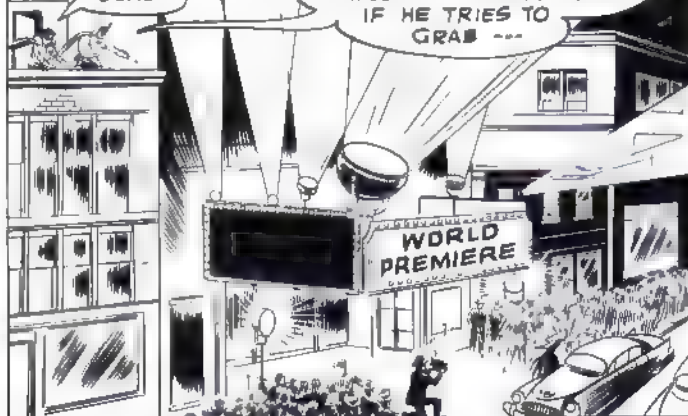
I THOUGHT YOU'D TRY FOR THOSE DIAMONDS!

BATMAN AND ROBIN! BUT YOU WON'T STOP ME!

LOOK OUT, HE'S GOING TO SHOOT--

I THOUGHT I GLIMPSED BATWOMAN PATROLLING TOO, BUT I'M NOT SURE--

BUT I DO SEE A KNOWN JEWEL-THIEF DOWN THERE AT THE BIG PREMIERE--AND HERE COMES A STAR WITH FAMOUS DIAMONDS! QUICK IF HE TRIES TO GRAB --



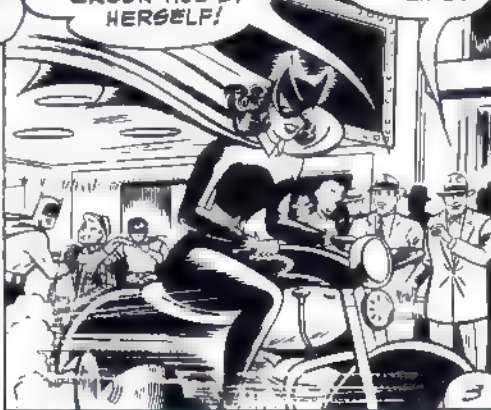
SUDDENLY, DOWN FROM ABOVE FLASHES A SWIFT FIGURE.

MY COMPACT-MIRROR SHOULD HELP YOU SEE THE LIGHT!

BATWOMAN! SHE'S DAZZLED HIM-- GRAB HIM FAST!

THERE GOES THE BATWOMAN. SHE STOPPED THAT CROOK ALL BY HERSELF!

SHE ALSO SAVED BATMAN'S LIFE!



LATER, AS THE UPSET DUO TAKES THE TRAIL AGAIN...

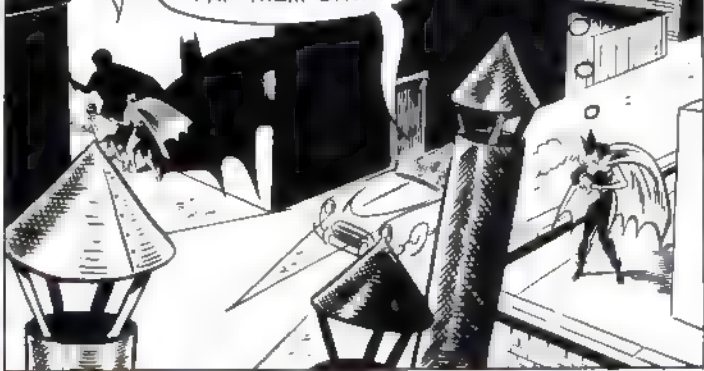
A GIRL SAVING YOU? IT'S RIDICULOUS!

SHE DID, THOUGH--BUT WE'VE GOT TO SEE SHE TAKES NO MORE SUCH RISKS! HER BAT-CYCLE TURNED INTO THIS NEXT BACK STREET--

SHE MUST BE IN HERE SOMEWHERE!

BATMAN BROKE UP OUR JEWEL JOB WITH THAT DAME'S HELP-- BUT HE AND ROBIN ARE IN THIS BLIND ALLEY! WE'LL PAY THEM BACK!

MY PERFUME FLASK SHOULD HELP--



AGAIN BATWOMAN USES A FLASHING FEMININE TRICK!

--IT'S TEAR GAS NO. 5!

THE REST OF THE JEWEL MOB! THEY WERE GOING TO TRAP US IN THIS BLIND ALLEY WITH THEIR CAR!

LATER, AFTER DELIVERING THE TEARFUL MOBSTERS TO JUSTICE...

EXTRA! BATWOMAN SAVES BATMAN AGAIN!

AND SHE SLIPPED AWAY AGAIN! BATMAN, SHE'S MAKING YOU LOOK BAD!

I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT BUT I DO WORRY ABOUT THE RISKS SHE'S TAKING!



SHE DOESN'T REALIZE THAT SHE'S BEEN SUCCESSFUL THUS FAR BECAUSE OF GOOD LUCK! AND SHE'S SO RECKLESS THAT SOME CRIMINAL IS BOUND TO FIND OUT HER IDENTITY. THEN, WHEN THAT HAPPENS, SHE'LL BE IN BAD DANGER!

YET SHE SAID THAT IF WE EXPOSED HER, IT WOULD EXPOSE YOU, TOO!

I'VE GOT TO RISK THAT, AND REVEAL HER IDENTITY--TO PROVE TO HER SHE CAN'T KEEP THIS UP! IF WE ONLY KNEW WHERE HER SECRET BASE IS--



WHERE IS BATWOMAN'S HIDEOUT, INDEED? AT THAT MOMENT...

THIS FORGOTTEN OLD MINE-TUNNEL IN THE SUBURBS CAME IN HANDY--



A CHANGE OF COSTUME, AND...

KATHY KANE, HEIRESS-- NO ONE WILL EVER DREAM I'M BATWOMAN--OR HOW I CAME TO BE BATWOMAN!

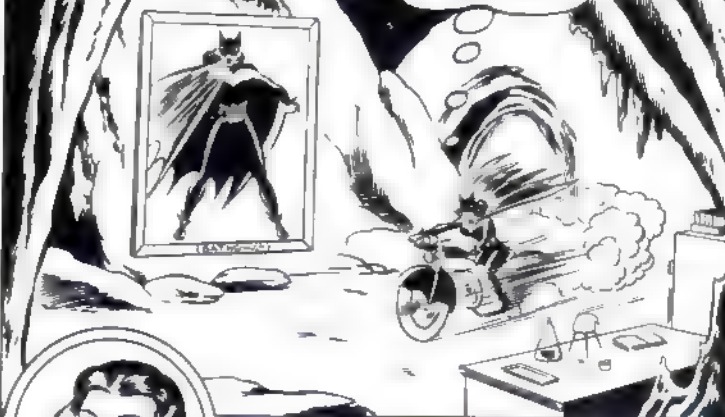


"BUT ONE DAY AN INHERITANCE GAVE ME A CHANCE TO REALIZE MY AMBITION!"

I INHERIT MY UNCLE'S ENTIRE FORTUNE! NOW I CAN USE MY SKILLS AS BATMAN DOES! I, TOO, WILL FIGHT CRIME--I'LL BE A BATWOMAN!



--FOR WHEN I BUILT MY HOUSE OVER THE TUNNEL, IT GAVE ME A HIDDEN BAT-CAVE UNDERNEATH! AND MY OWN PORTRAIT GUARDS MY BAT-CAVE FOR ME!



"BECAUSE NO ONE DREAMS I WAS ONCE A CIRCUS DAREDEVIL PERFORMER!"

BUT I WISH I COULD BE LIKE BATMAN, THE GREATEST ACROBAT OF ALL! HE USES HIS SKILL, NOT FOR SHOWS, BUT AGAINST CRIME!

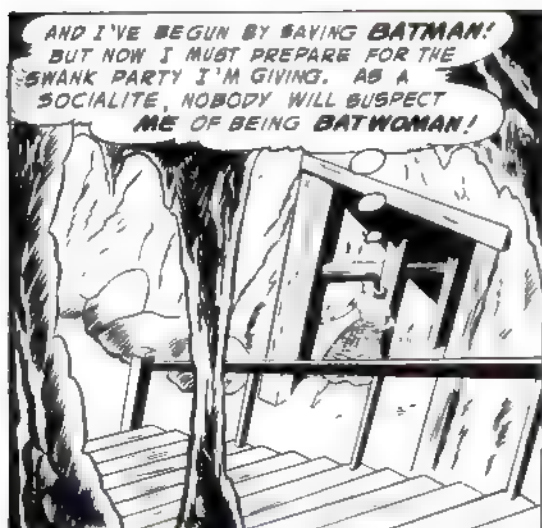
SHE'S A FINE TRAPEZE PERFORMER--AND OUR BEST MOTOR-CYCLE STUNTER TOO!



"AND IN THIS BAT-CAVE I FITTED UP UNDER MY NEW MANSION, I TRAINED LONG FOR MY CAREER!"

THIS COSTUME WILL MASK MY IDENTITY! MY BAT-CYCLE IS READY, AND THIS SHOULDER-BAG UTILITY-CASE WILL BE A GREAT HELP. NOW, WITH MY CRIME-LABORATORY, MY FILES, EVERYTHING-- I'M READY TO ACT!





AND I'VE BEGUN BY SAYING **BATMAN!**
BUT NOW I MUST PREPARE FOR THE
SWANK PARTY I'M GIVING. AS A
SOCIALITE, NOBODY WILL SUSPECT
ME OF BEING **BATWOMAN!**



AND AT THE SAME MOMENT, **BRUCE WAYNE...**
YES, I'M INVITED TO KATHY
KANE'S PARTY AND I HAVE
TO SHOW UP AT SOME OF
THESE SOCIETY AFFAIRS TO
KEEP UP PRETENSES!
BUT IF ANYTHING
BREAKS--

I KNOW! I'LL
GET THERE
FAST IF IT
DOES!



AND SOON, AT THE GAY AFFAIR...

--AND GOTHAM
CITY IS AGOG
OVER THE
APPEARANCE
OF A
BATWOMAN!

IT SOUNDS SILLY--
HOW COULD ANY
WOMAN EVER
EQUAL THE
GREAT
BATMAN!

YOU HAVE
TO ADMIRE
THIS
BATWOMAN'S
COURAGE,
THOUGH!

SO SHE ADMIRES
BATMAN! IF
ONLY I COULD
TELL HER I'M
BATMAN--BUT
I CAN'T!

BRUCE IS SO GOOD-
LOOKING-- AND HE
ADMIRES **BATWOMAN!**
IF-- SIGH-- HE ONLY
KNEW I'M
BATWOMAN!

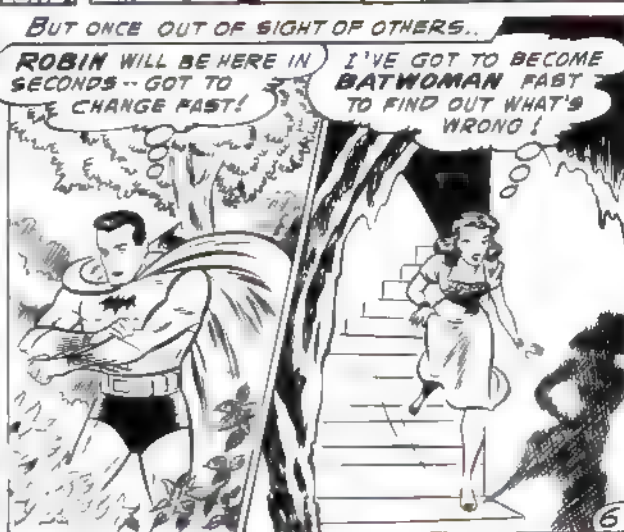


BUT SUDDENLY, AS THE FESTIVE AFFAIR
DRAWS TO A CLOSE...

LOOK, THE
BAT-
SIGNAL!
WONDER
WHAT'S UP
NOW?

SURE I DON'T
KNOW-- OR CARE!
GOODBYE, KATHY--
LOVELY PARTY!

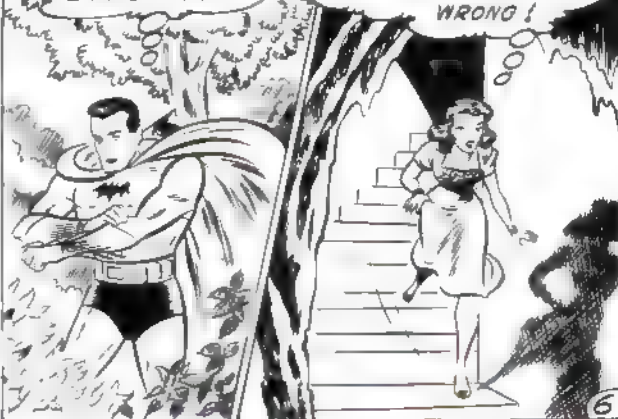
DO COME
AGAIN,
BRUCE--
GOOD
NIGHT
ALL!



BUT ONCE OUT OF SIGHT OF OTHERS...

ROBIN WILL BE HERE IN
SECONDS-- GOT TO
CHANGE FAST!

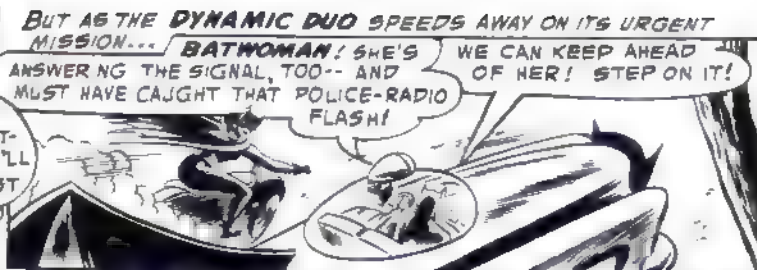
I'VE GOT TO BECOME
BATWOMAN FAST
TO FIND OUT WHAT'S
WRONG!





-- ALARM AT THE TOMORROW CLUB!

IT'S THAT FUTURISTIC NIGHT-CLUB OUTSIDE TOWN! WE'LL TAKE THE WEST HIGHWAY!



WE CAN KEEP AHEAD OF HER! STEP ON IT!

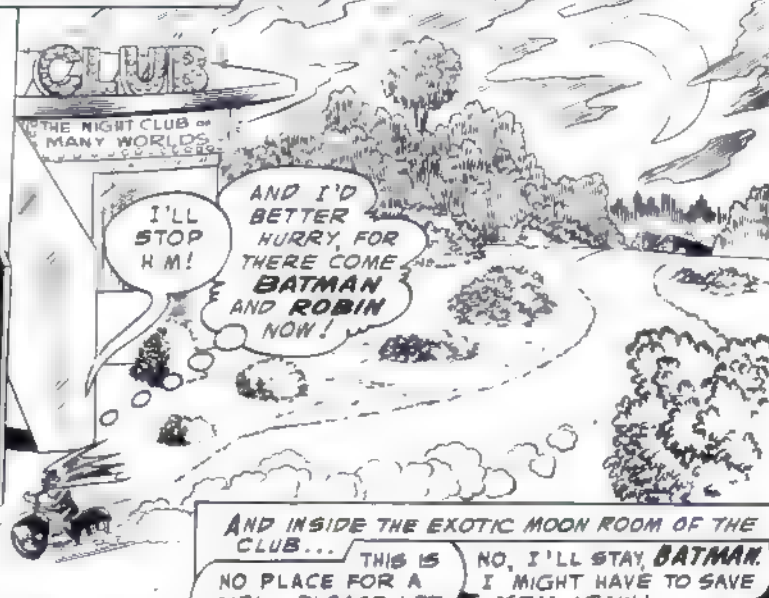


THAT BAT-CYCLE DOES GIVE HER A CHANCE TO SHORT-CUT!

AND SOON, AT THE FUTURISTIC "TOMORROW CLUB."



THERE'S A THUG IN THERE WRECKING MY PLACE-- HE MUST BE CRAZY!



AND I'D BETTER HURRY, FOR THERE COME BATMAN AND ROBIN NOW!



YES, SHE WENT IN TO CATCH THE MAN WHO'S WRECKING THE CLUB! BUT HE'S ARMED!

MIGHT HAVE KNOWN SHE'D DASH INTO DANGER! ROBIN, YOU GUARD THE OUTSIDE DOORS-- I'LL GET HER OUT OF HERE!



AND INSIDE THE EXOTIC MOON ROOM OF THE CLUB... THIS IS NO PLACE FOR A GIRL-- PLEASE LET ME HANDLE IT!

NO, I'LL STAY, BATMAN. I MIGHT HAVE TO SAVE YOU AGAIN!

AND AS THE MASKED MANHUNTERS TENSELY SEARCH THE STRANGE, "INTERPLANETARY" ROOMS...



BATWOMAN,
TO YOU THIS IS JUST A THRILL-- YOU DON'T REALIZE THAT FIGHTING CRIME IS A DANGEROUS BUSINESS!

THEN YOU'D BETTER STOP WORRYING OVER ME AND TEND TO BUSINESS--

-- FOR SOMEONE'S STARTED THOSE FAKE MARTIAN IDOLS FALLING TOWARD US!

QUICK, LOOP YOUR ROPE ON THE "CLIFF" THERE AND SWING!

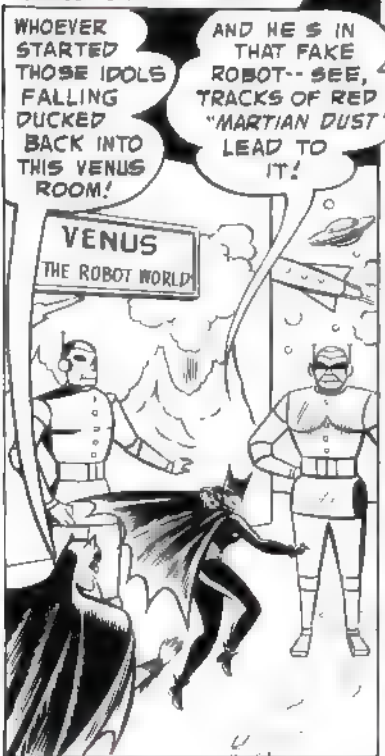


AND AS MIGHTY "IDOLS" CRASH... YOU'RE A LOOKS LIKE YOU SAVED ME AGAIN! AND YOU'RE A SWELL ACROBAT, I'LL ADMIT!

TERRIFIC TRAP-- ARTIST YOURSELF!



THE CHASE LEADS TO THE VENUS WORLD EXHIBIT ROOM...



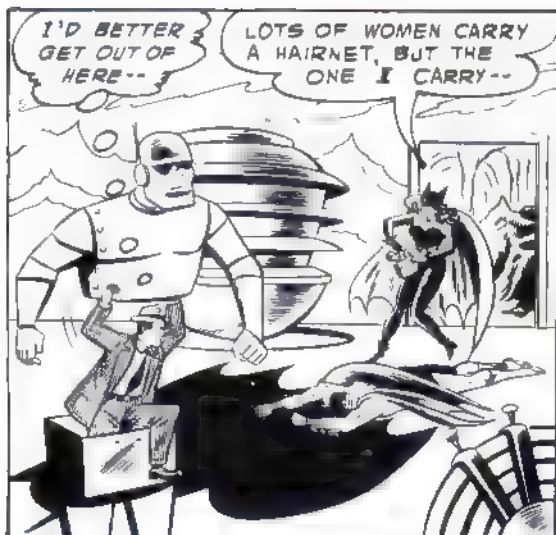
WHOEVER STARTED THOSE IDOLS FALLING DUCKED BACK INTO THIS VENUS ROOM!

AND HE'S IN THAT FAKE ROBOT-- SEE, TRACKS OF RED "MARTIAN DUST" LEAD TO IT!

BATWOMAN,
GET BACK!

HAVE TO THRUST HER OUT OF THE WAY OF THAT BLOW--





RETURNING TO THE UNCONSCIOUS BATMAN...



MOMENTS LATER, WHEN POLICE ARRIVE...

BATWOMAN'S MADE US LOOK LIKE AMATEURS, AGAIN!

BUT SHE MADE TWO S.L.P.S.-- WHEN SHE REFERRED TO "SCRATCH-RIDERS" AND "TRAP-ARTISTS"! LATER, I'LL SHOW YOU HOW THAT CLUE WILL LEAD US TO HER DENTIST!



VORN WOULD ONLY HAVE ONE REASON TO ORDER THIS PLACE WRECKED-- TO DRAW US HERE WHILE HE COMMITTED SOME ROBBERY ELSEWHERE!

BUT WHEN I CALLED THE COMMISSIONER JUST NOW, HE SAID NOTHING HAD HAPPENED!



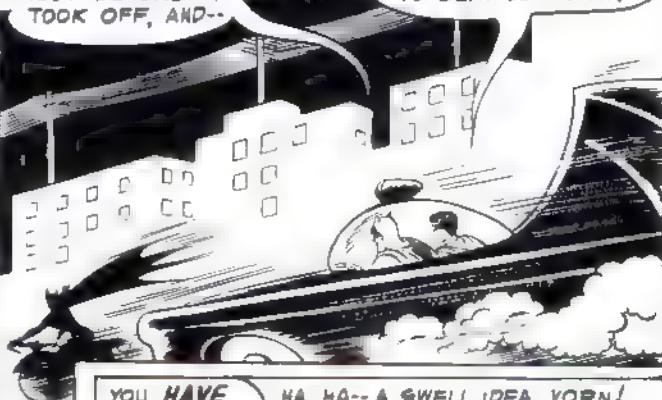
YOU'RE WRONG, ROBIN! THAT ADVERTISING BLIMP NORMALLY CRUISES OVER THE CITY EVERY NIGHT. BUT TONIGHT IT'S DROPPING TOWARD THE EAST SIDE SECTION--TOWARD THE MINT!

COME ON!

BUT BATWOMAN HAS OVERHEARD, AND RACES THE DYNAMIC DUO ON THE URGENT MISSION!

VORN COULD HAVE OVERPOWERED THE BLIMP'S PILOT BEFORE IT TOOK OFF, AND--

WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT-- BATWOMAN'S TRYING TO BEAT US AGAIN!



AT THE MINT, AS THE BLIMP DESCENDS TOWARD THE GUARDED YARD...

THE GAS-BAG'S LEAKING-- WE HAD TO MAKE AN EMERGENCY LANDING!

ALL RIGHT-- WE'LL HELP YOU REPAIR IT--



YOU HAVE HELPED US-- BY FALLING FOR OUR GAG!

HA, HA-- A SWEET IDEA, VORN! WE CAN LOOT THE PLACE AND GET AWAY IN THE BLIMP FAST!



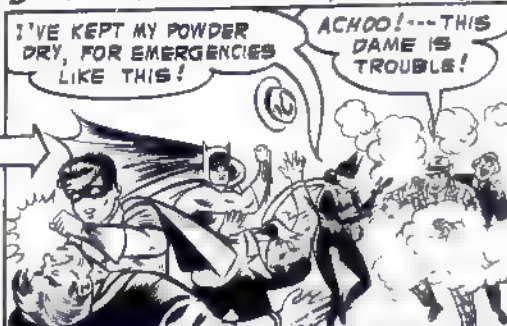
BUT OUT OF THE UPPER NIGHT, THREE
FLYING FIGURES PLUNGE DOWN...



BATMAN
AND
ROBIN--
AND
BATWOMAN!

THERE'S
ONLY TWO
OF THEM--
THE GIRL
DOESN'T
COUNT!

BUT THIS GIRL DOES COUNT, IN A FRAY!



I'VE KEPT MY POWDER
DRY, FOR EMERGENCIES
LIKE THIS!

ACHOO!---THIS
DAME IS
TROUBLE!



BATMAN AND
ROBIN WILL
BE ON US NEXT--
OUT OF HERE IN
THE BLIMP!

NO YOU DON'T! MY
SHOULDER-BAG STRAP,
WHICH HAS WEIGHTED
ENDS, MAKES--



--A FINE
BAT-BOLO,
TO STOP
THUGS LIKE
YOU!

GOOD WORK, BATHWOMAN!
SINCE YOU CAUGHT VORN,
WE'LL LEAVE YOU TO TURN
THESE CROOKS OVER
TO THE POLICE!

AS THE DUO LEAVES...

BUT, BATMAN,
YOU FIGURED
OUT VORN'S
PLANS, AND
WE DID AS
MUCH AS SHE
TO STOP THEM!
YET YOU GIVE
HER THE
CREDIT!

I NEED A LITTLE
TIME, TO TRACE
THOSE "SCRATCH-
RIDER" AND
"TRAP-ARTIST"
CLUES TO
HER IDENTITY!



AND QUICKLY, IN THE BAT-CAVE'S
GREAT FILES OF INFORMATION...

THOSE ARE
CIRCUS TERMS--
SO BATWOMAN
MUST BE AN EX-
CIRCUS PER-
FORMER
WHO COULD
DO BOTH
STUNTS!

NOT MANY
COULD DO
BOTH--OUR
FILE OF
THEATRICAL
AND CIRCUS
PEOPLE OUGHT
TO GIVE US
A TIP!



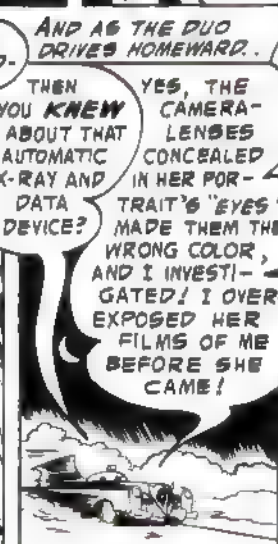
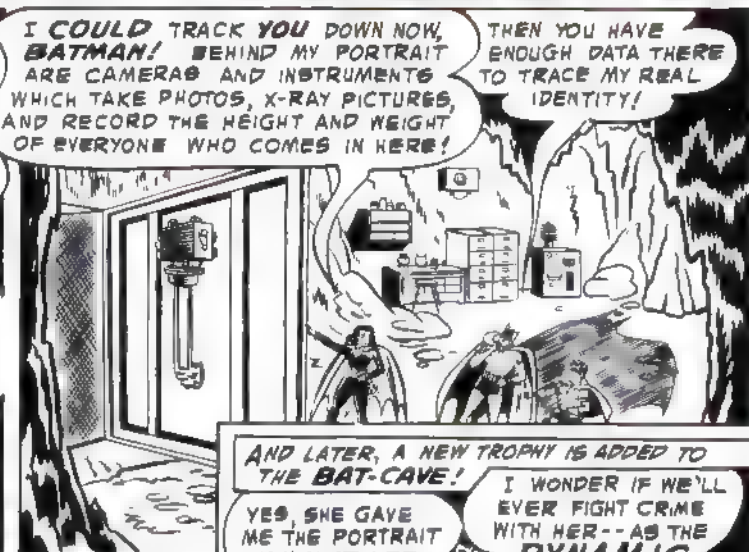
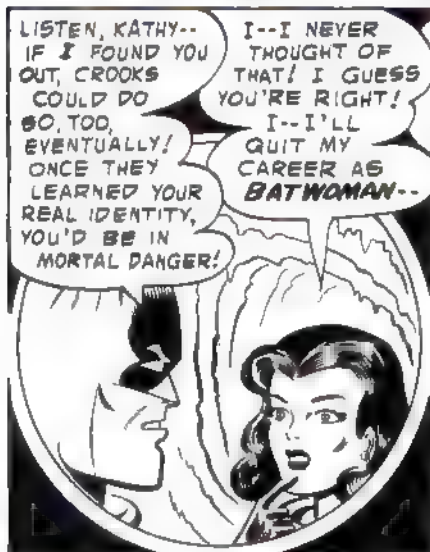
AND SOON...

KATHY KANE!
SHE NEVER SAID
SHE WAS A
CIRCUS GIRL--
BUT COME TO
THINK OF IT,
BATWOMAN
CAME FROM THE
DIRECTION OF
HER HOUSE,
LAST NIGHT!

SHE'D HAVE TO HAVE
SOME SECRET
ENTRANCE TO
THE HOUSE--OUR
CAVE AND TUNNEL
CHARTS WILL
TELL!



KATHY KANE, STAR
TRAP ARTIST AND
TRICK MOTORCYCLE-
RIDER!



BATMAN

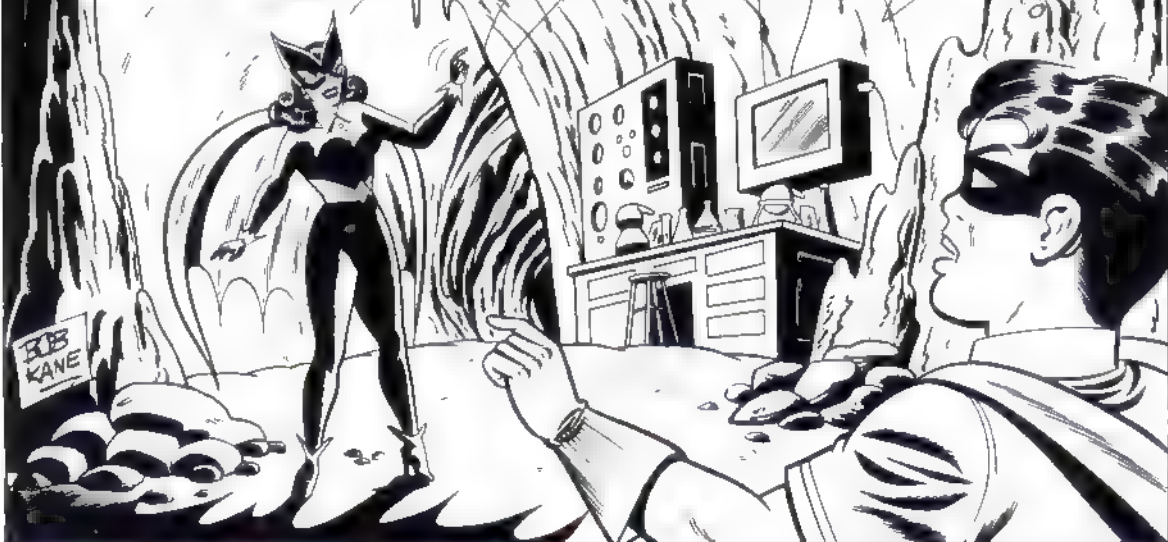
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

BATMAN HAS ALWAYS BEEN UNPARALLELED AS A CRIME-FIGHTER... FOR NO ONE ELSE CAN MATCH HIS ACROBATIC MASTERY, HIS SKILL AT DETECTION! BUT THERE IS ONE PERSON WHO **CAN** GIVE THE CAPED LAWMAN COMPETITION... A SPIRITED YOUNG LADY WHO'S GOTTEN IN HIS HAIR BEFORE--AND WHO NOW RETURNS TO ISSUE...

THE CHALLENGE OF BATWOMAN

KEEP MOVING,
BATMAN!
WALKING A TIGHT-ROPE
WILL TEACH YOU
MUSCULAR
CONTROL!

BATWOMAN
THINKS SHE'S
INSTRUCTING
BATMAN IN
CRIME-FIGHTING
TECHNIQUE... SHE
DOESN'T KNOW THE
MAN UP THERE IS
REALLY A
CRIMINAL!



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WEALTHY, LOVELY, YOUNG KATHY KANE SHOULD BE HAPPY, BUT... SOMETIMES I ALMOST

WISH I HADN'T INHERITED MY UNCLE'S FORTUNE! I'M SO BORED WITH JUST BEING A SOCIETY GIRL!

NOSTALGICALLY, KATHY DESCENDS TO A SECRET CAVERN BELOW HER MANSION...

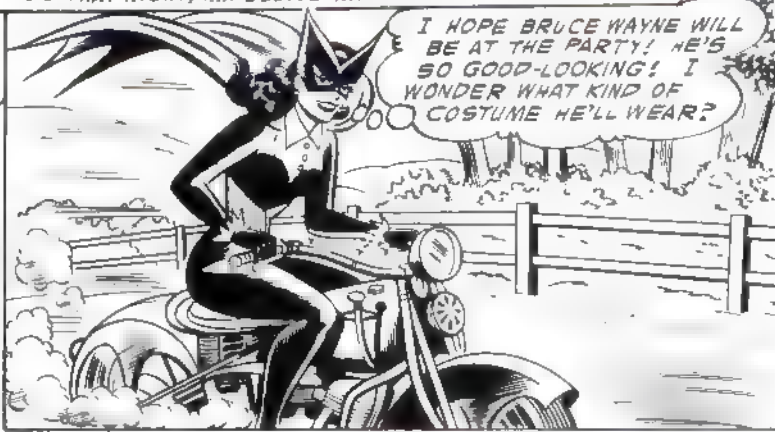
SIGH LIFE WAS MORE EXCITING WHEN I WORE THIS COSTUME AS THE **BATWOMAN!**

BUT **BATMAN** FOUND OUT MY SECRET IDENTITY AND MADE ME REALIZE CROOKS COULD DO SO, TOO, EVENTUALLY--AND ONCE THEY D.D, I'D BE IN DANGER! SO I PROMISED TO GIVE UP MY **BAT-WOMAN** CAREER...



IF ONLY I COULD WEAR THIS COSTUME AGAIN, JUST ONCE! HMM... MAYBE I CAN-- AND WITHOUT BREAKING MY PROMISE TO **BATMAN!** I CAN WEAR IT TO THE MASQUERADE BALL TONIGHT!

SO THAT NIGHT, IMPULSIVE KATHY EXCITEDLY GETS OUT...



I HOPE BRUCE WAYNE WILL BE AT THE PARTY! HE'S SO GOOD-LOOKING! I WONDER WHAT KIND OF COSTUME HE'LL WEAR?

AT THAT MOMENT, BRUCE DONS A COSTUME--NOT FOR A PARTY--BUT FOR HIS CRIME-FIGHTING ROLE OF... **BATMAN!**

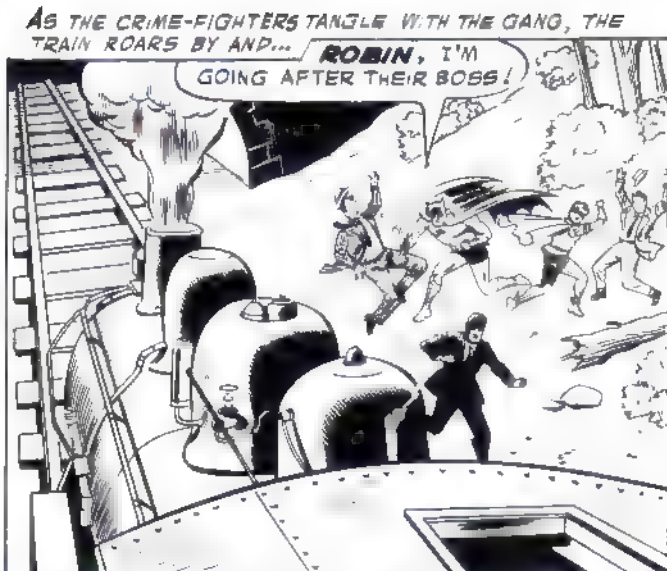
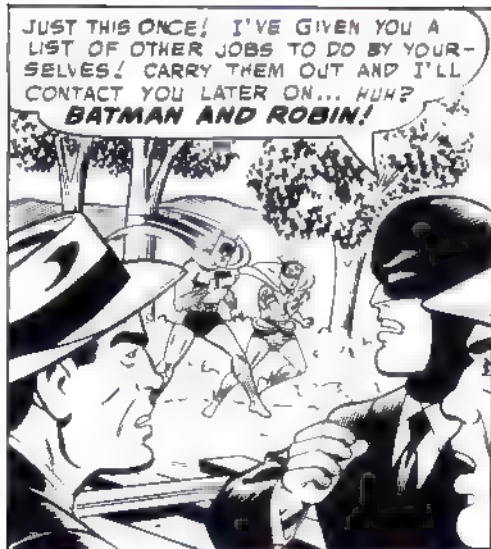
LATER, ELSEWHERE, THE MYSTERIOUS BANDIT LEADER SNAPS HIS ORDERS...

WHEN THE TRAIN ENTERS THIS TUNNEL, WE'LL DERAIL IT AND GRAB THE VALUABLE PAINTINGS FROM THE MAIL CAR!

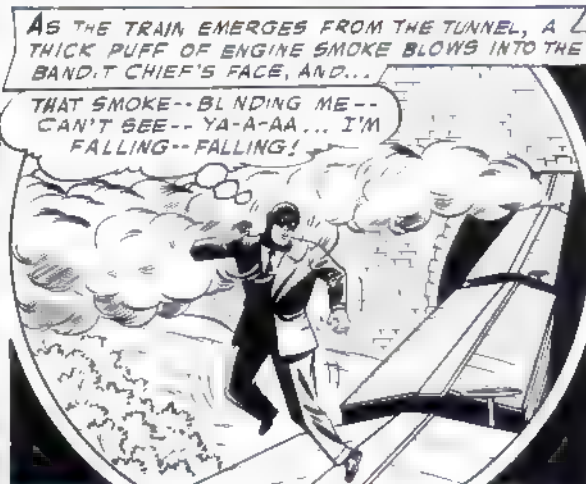
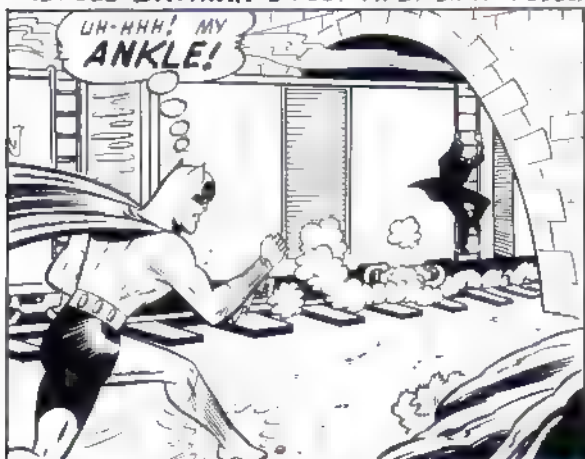
GEE, BOSS, YOU'RE ACTUALLY GONNA STAY WITH US ON A JOB FOR ONCE!

LET'S GO, PICK! I'VE GOT A LEAD TO THAT GANG THAT SPECIALIZES IN STEALING ART TREASURES! I WONDER WHO THEIR BOSS IS, BRUCE? I HEAR HE'S ALWAYS MASKED--THAT NOT EVEN HIS OWN GANG HAS EVER SEEN HIS FACE!





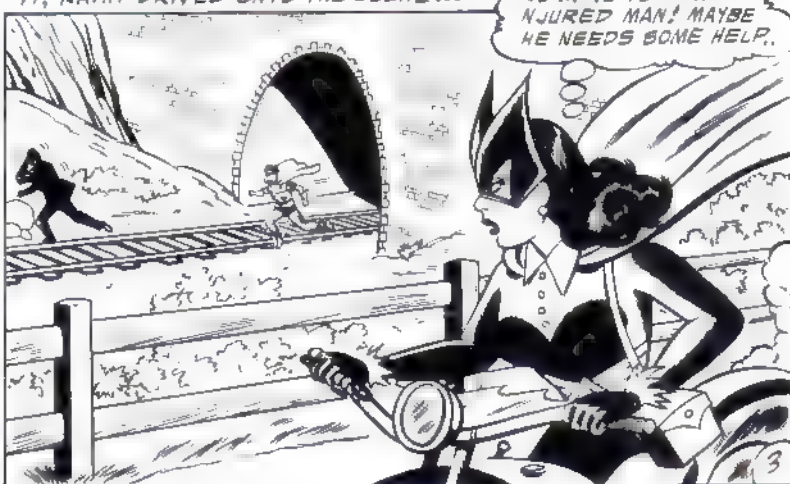
INTENT ON ESCAPE, THE CRIMINAL DOES NOT SEE **BATMAN'S** FOOT TWIST ON A PEBBLE.



THOUGH DAZED BY HIS FALL, HE INSTINCTIVELY RIDES HIMSELF OF THE ONE THING THAT WILL IDENTIFY HIM AS THE GANG LEADER...



A MOMENT LATER, AS FATE WOULD HAVE IT, KATHY DRIVES ONTO THE SCENE...



KATHY!
I MEAN...
BATWOMAN!

HI, **ROBIN!** SAY-- I RECOGNIZE
THAT MAN! HE'S CURT BRIGGS,
THE ATHLETE... HE RUNS A
PHYSICAL CULTURE SCHOOL!

AS KATHY STARES AT THAT PART OF BRIGGS'S
FACE NOT BLACKENED BY THE ENGINE SMOKE...

HE TRIED TO PROTECT HIS SECRET IDENTITY BY
REMOVING HIS GARB-- BUT FORGOT THAT THE
SOOT LEFT THE SHAPE OF THE COWL ON HIS
FACE! **ROBIN**, IT ALL ADDS UP... YOUR
PRESENCE HERE-- WITH A MAN WHO
WORE A COWL! CURT BRIGGS
= **BATMAN!**

AT THAT MOMENT, THE INJURED MAN REGAINS
CONSCIOUSNESS...

FEELING BETTER,
BATMAN?

MY HEAD-- HURTS! YOU CALLED
ME... **BATMAN?** IS THAT
MY NAME? I CAN'T REMEMBER...
I-- I CAN'T REMEMBER
ANYTHING!

ROBIN-- HE
DOESN'T
KNOW WHO
HE IS!

WHAT A COMPLICATION! BRIGGS
WITH AMNESIA-- AND **BATMAN**
WITH A SPRAINED ANKLE,
CLOSE BY!

IF KATHY SAW
BATMAN NOW,
AND BRUCE WAYNE
LATER-- WITH A
BAD ANKLE-- SHE'D
BE BOUND TO SUSPECT
THEY'RE THE SAME
PERSON! I'LL HAVE
TO STALL ALONG WITH
HER, TILL **BATMAN**
CAN GET AWAY...

ROBIN, IF CRIMINALS EVER KNEW
BATMAN HAD AMNESIA, THEY'D
STRIKE EVERYWHERE! SO WE'LL
HAVE TO BLUFF THEM-- BY
TEACHING **BATMAN** CRIME-
FIGHTING TECHNIQUES ALL
OVER AGAIN, IN MY
BATCAVERN!

WHA-AAT?

THUS, AWHILE LATER, IN **BATWOMAN'S**
SECRET CAVE...

COME ON, BRIGGS...
YOU'RE GOING TO SCHOOL--
TO LEARN HOW TO BE
BATMAN ONCE
MORE!

THIS SITUATION IS
GETTING OUT OF
HAND! I'D
BETTER CALL
BATMAN ON MY
BELT RADIO...

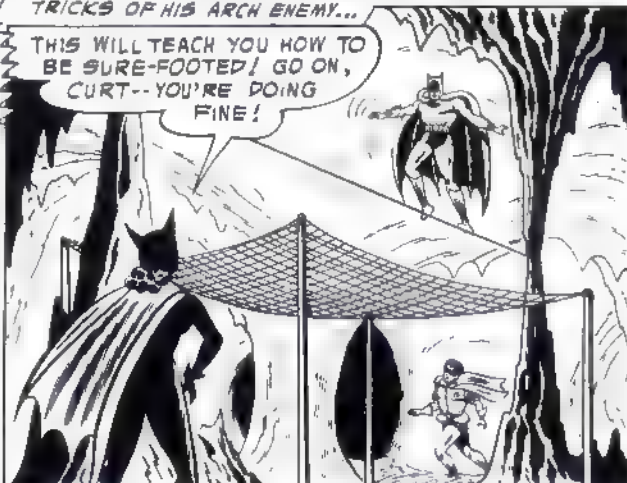
SOON, IN A SECLUDED SECTION OF THE CAVERN, **ROBIN** CONTACTS **BATMAN** AND DISCUSSES THE ODD SITUATION...

AND SO, WEARING A SPARE **BATMAN** COSTUME, A CRIMINAL IS UNAWARE HE IS BEING TAUGHT THE TRICKS OF HIS ARCH ENEMY...

PLAY ALONG WITH KATHY'S PLAN, **ROBIN**! SINCE I'M DISABLED, IT WILL HELP IF CROOKS THINK I'M STILL IN ACTION! MEANWHILE, KEEP GIVING ME A DAILY REPORT ON BRIGGS!

RIGHT... HE'S STILL OUR ONLY LEAD TO THE GANG AND THE HIDDEN LOOT!

THIS WILL TEACH YOU HOW TO BE SURE-FOOTED! GO ON, CURT--YOU'RE DOING FINE!



EVERY TRICK WHICH **BATWOMAN** HAS MASTERED IS PASSED ON TO THE CONFUSED CROOK...

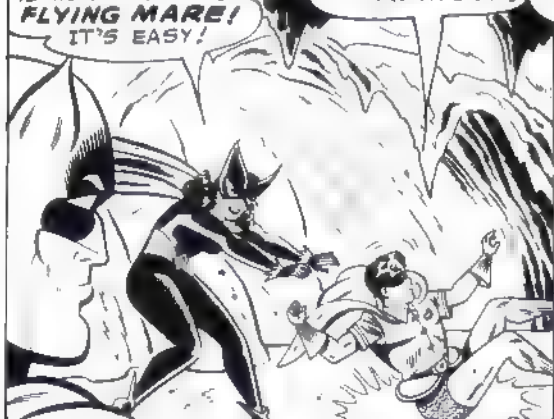
BUT SHORTLY AFTERWARD, DURING BALLISTICS INSTRUCTIONS...

SEE?... THIS IS HOW TO DO THE FLYING MARE! IT'S EASY!

EASY--BUT I LAND HARD... OOF!

CURT, WHY ARE YOU STARING AT THAT NEWSPAPER?

THAT PHOTOGRAPH--SOMEHOW I KNOW IT'S IMPORTANT...



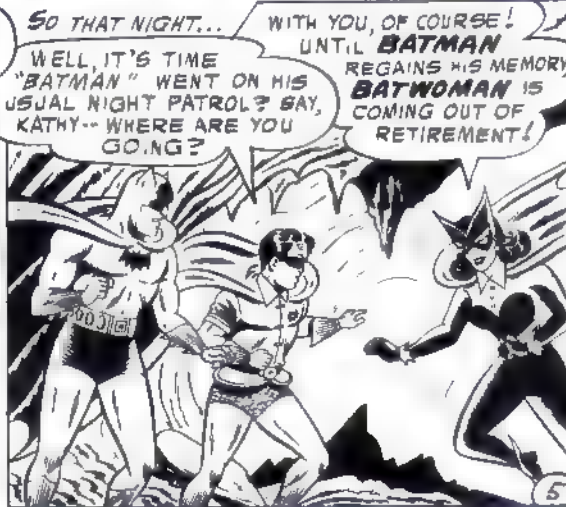
ART MUSEUM, EH? AND HE FELT IT WAS IMPORTANT! WITHOUT HIS REALIZING IT, BRIGGS' FAULTY MEMORY HAS GIVEN US A TIP TO HIS GANG'S NEXT JOB!

SO THAT NIGHT...

WITH YOU, OF COURSE!

WELL, IT'S TIME "BATMAN" WENT ON HIS USUAL NIGHT PATROL? SAY, KATHY--WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

UNTIL **BATMAN** REGAINS HIS MEMORY, **BATWOMAN** IS COMING OUT OF RETIREMENT!



LATER, INSIDE THE QUIET ART MUSEUM, A PANEL SLIDES OPEN...

THE BOSS IS A GENIUS! IMAGINE--SMUGGLIN' US RIGHT INTO THE BUILDING--JUST LIKE THE GREEKS GOT THEMSELVES SMUGGLED INTO TROY!



THE PAINTING THE BOSS WANTS US TO GRAB IS IN THE NEXT... HUH--? BATMAN AND ROBIN!

AND DON'T FORGET BATWOMAN!



AS FOR ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER GETS "HELP" FROM A GREEK ATHLETE...

I WONDER WHAT BRIGGS WOULD SAY IF HE KNEW HE WAS STOPPING THE VERY CRIME HE PLANNED?



WHEN ONE BANDIT CHARGES, THE INGENIOUS BATWOMAN EXTRACTS A LARGE POWDER-PUFF FROM HER SHOULDER-BAG UTILITY CASE, AND...

(ACHOO!) POWDER--IN MY FACE! (ACHOO!) CAN'T STOP--SNEEZING!



INDEED, AS THE CRIME-BOSS CORNERS ONE OF HIS OWN GANG, HE INSTINCTIVELY HESITATES...

SOMEHOW--I GET THE FEELING THAT I'M WORKING AGAINST MYSELF... THAT I MUST LET THIS MAN ESCAPE!



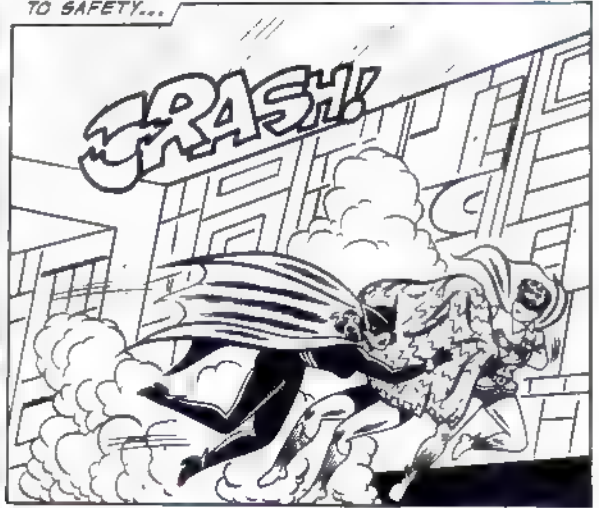
AND THAT MOMENT'S HESITATION IS ALL THE DESPERATE BANDIT NEEDS TO MAKE HIS MOVE...

YOU MUST BE SLOWIN' UP, BATMAN!





WITH SPLIT-SECOND PRECISION, TWO CAPED FIGURES LAUNCH FORWARD, SLAMMING THE BOGUS "BATMAN" TO SAFETY...



NEXT EVENING, BACK IN BATWOMAN'S CAVE, ROBIN DECIDES ON SOME STRATEGY...

BY THE TIME THEY STAND ERECT AGAIN, THE BANDITS ARE GONE... EMPTY-HANDED...

PERHAPS IF I STREW AROUND SOME MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS CONTAINING ART NEWS, BRIGGS WILL UNKNOWINGLY TIP US TO HIS GANG'S NEXT JOB... AS HE DID THE LAST TIME!

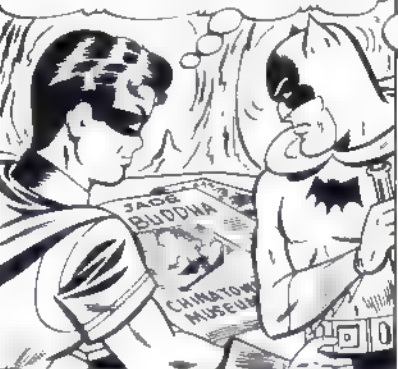
HE ONLY HAD A FEW LESSONS-- SO HE WASN'T SURE OF HIMSELF, YET! THAT'S WHY HE HESITATED BEFORE!

NO... ACTUALLY, BRIGGS HESITATED BECAUSE, IN SPITE OF HIS AMNESIA, HE SENSED HE WAS WORKING AGAINST HIMSELF!



AND THE TRICK WORKS AS, SHORTLY AFTERWARD...

HE'S FASCINATED BY THAT ART NOTICE... IT MUST BE THE NEXT JOB ON THAT LIST OF ROBBERIES HE PLANNED WITH HIS GANG!



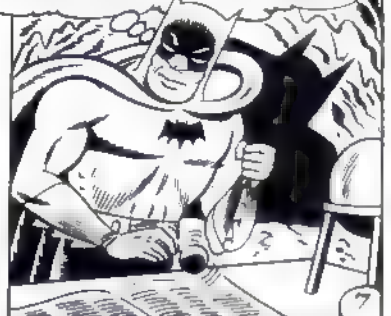
BUT ROBIN IS UNAWARE THAT THE ART NOTICE HAS SUDDENLY JOLTED BRIGGS' MEMORY BACK TO NORMAL...

NOW I REMEMBER! THE FALL FROM THE TRAIN... BATWOMAN'S LESSONS... EVERYTHING!



WOW-- WHAT A SETUP!

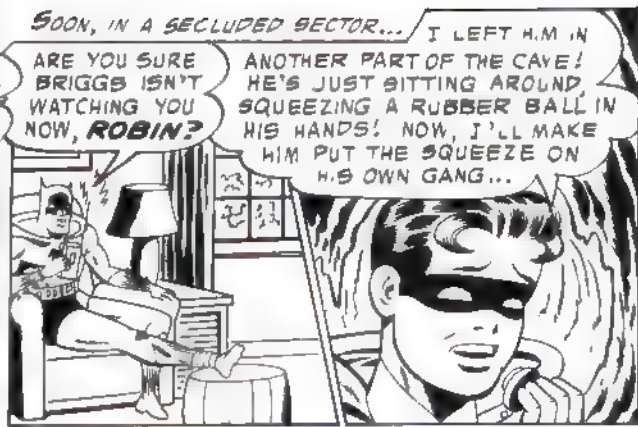
BATMAN AND ROBIN MUST HAVE SOME PRIVATE REASON FOR STRINGING BATWOMAN ALONG THIS WAY. SO I'LL PRETEND I'VE STILL GOT AMNESIA-- AND LEAD HER AND THE KID RIGHT INTO A TRAP!





ONLY ONE THING I DON'T KNOW YET--THE SECRET IDENTITY OF **BATWOMAN!** I'LL UNMASK HER, FIRST CHANCE I GET!

NOW'S MY CHANCE TO SNEAK AWAY AND MAKE MY REPORT TO **BATMAN...**



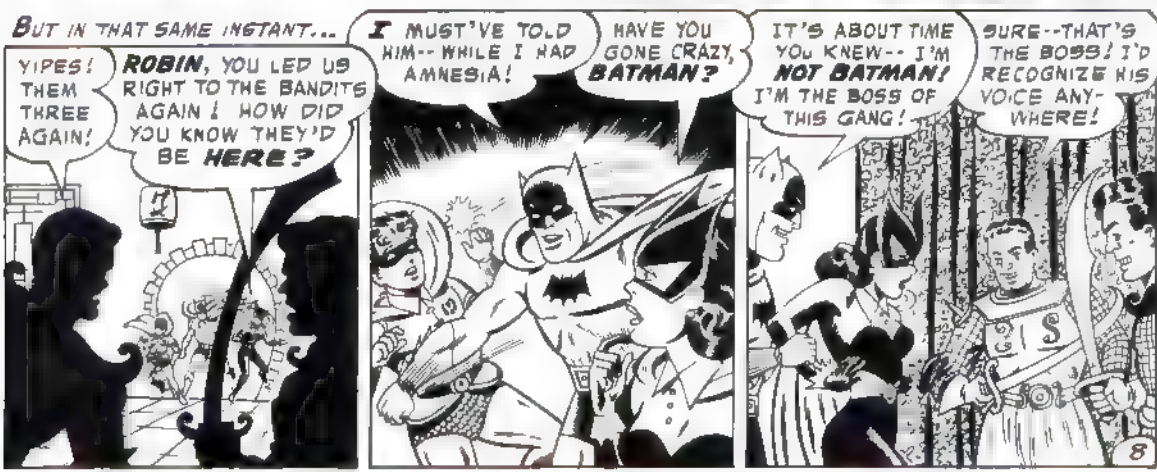
ARE YOU SURE BRIGGS ISN'T WATCHING YOU NOW, **ROBIN?**

SOON, IN A SECLUDED SECTOR... I LEFT H.M. IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CAVE! HE'S JUST SITTING AROUND, SQUEEZING A RUBBER BALL IN HIS HANDS! NOW, I'LL MAKE HIM PUT THE SQUEEZE ON HIS OWN GANG...

LATER, IN GOTHAM CITY'S CHINATOWN MUSEUM WHERE THREE ORIENTAL KNIGHTS SUDDENLY COME TO LIFE...



HAW! THE MUSEUM GUARD NEVER KNEW WE WERE HIDING HERE! NOW LET'S LOOK FOR THAT JADE BUDDHA THE BOSS WANTS!



BUT IN THAT SAME INSTANT...

YIPES! THEM THREE AGAIN! **ROBIN**, YOU LED US RIGHT TO THE BANDITS AGAIN! HOW DID YOU KNOW THEY'D BE HERE?

I MUST'VE TOLD HIM--WHILE I HAD AMNESIA!

HAVE YOU GONE CRAZY, **BATMAN?**

IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU KNEW-- I'M **NOT BATMAN!** I'M THE BOSS OF THIS GANG!

SURE--THAT'S THE BOSS! I'D RECOGNIZE HIS VOICE ANYWHERE!



BUT WHAT ABOUT THE **REAL BATMAN**? WHERE'S HE?

PROBABLY UNDER COVER! HE DOESN'T DARE REVEAL HIMSELF, BECAUSE THEN **BATWOMAN** WOULD KNOW SHE WAS FOOLED!



HUH?

BATMAN--STANDING! BUT HOW CAN HE... ON HIS INJURED ANKLE?



THIS IS OUR CUE, **BATWOMAN!**

THE FEMALE CRIME-FIGHTER RESPONDS GALLANTLY...

MY "CHARM BRACELETS" ARE REALLY DISGUISED HANDCUFFS-- AND THEY LOOK CHARMING ON YOU!



HUH?

TRYING TO ESCAPE, THE FRANTIC CRIMINALS SCATTER-- BUT...



NICE GOING, **BATWOMAN**... I'VE GOT THIS ONE BAGGED, TOO!



THE "HAIRNET" I CARRY IN MY UTILITY BAG IS BIG ENOUGH TO NET A WEASEL YOUR SIZE!



AND SO, WITH THE GANG CAPTURED...

BATMAN, HOW DID YOU KNOW BRIGGS HAD RECOVERED HIS MEMORY?

I DIDN'T REALIZE IT UNTIL A LITTLE WHILE AGO, WHEN I RECALLED THAT YOU SAID BRIGGS WAS **SQUEEZING A RUBBER BALL...**

LIKE ALL PHYSICAL CULTURE ENTHUSIASTS, BRIGGS' HABIT WAS TO SQUEEZE A RUBBER BALL TO **STRENGTHEN HIS HANDS...** BUT I REALIZED HE WOULDN'T BE EXERCISING HIS HANDS IF HE HAD NO MEMORY OF EVER DOING IT BEFORE!

NOW, I'LL BE ON MY WAY! THANKS FOR YOUR HELP, **BATWOMAN!** WITHOUT YOU, WE COULD HAVE NEVER CAPTURED THE BRIGGS GANG!



LATER... I'M SORRY **BATMAN** AND I HAD TO TRICK YOU, KATHY... BUT WE KNOW YOU'LL UNDERSTAND!

I DO SIGH AND IT WAS FUN WHILE IT LASTED... BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THE **BATWOMAN** IS GOING INTO RETIREMENT AGAIN!



STILL LATER, BATMAN SHOWS ROBIN HOW HE KEPT HIS INJURY A SECRET FROM ALL EYES...

I STOOD ON A **DUMMY LEG**-- WHILE THE CAPE HID MY INJURED LEG, WHICH I HAD STRAPPED UP TO MY THIGH!



AND **BATMAN'S** TRICK, TO KEEP HIS INJURY A SECRET, IS A WISE MOVE-- FOR NEXT DAY, HE HAS A SURPRISE VISITOR...

THOUGHT I'D DROP IN AND SAY HELLO! I-- OH-- YOU'VE HURT YOUR ANKLE? NOW'D YOU DO IT?

WELL, KATHY, I... ER.. I SPRAINED IT WHILE I WAS OUT DANCING!



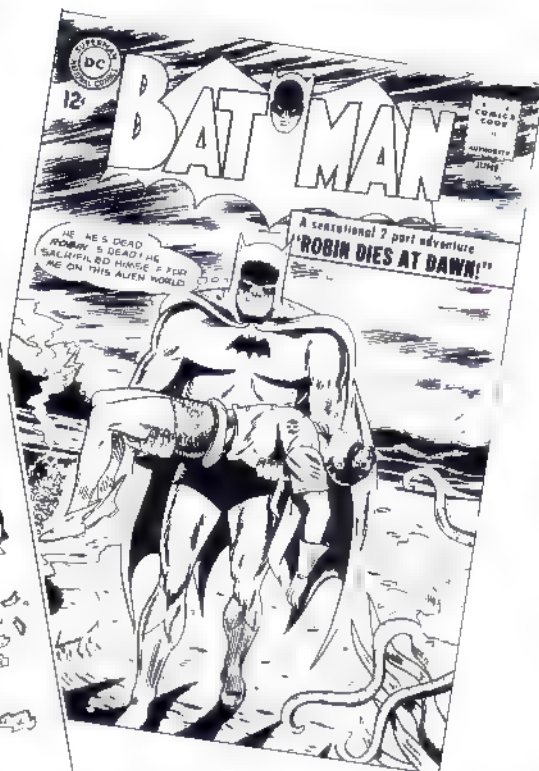
DANCING... HMPH! I'LL BET IF **BATMAN** EVER GOT AN INJURY, IT WOULD BE BECAUSE HE WAS DOING SOMETHING **HEROIC!** SO GHÉ I WISH YOU COULD BE MORE LIKE HIM, BRUCE!

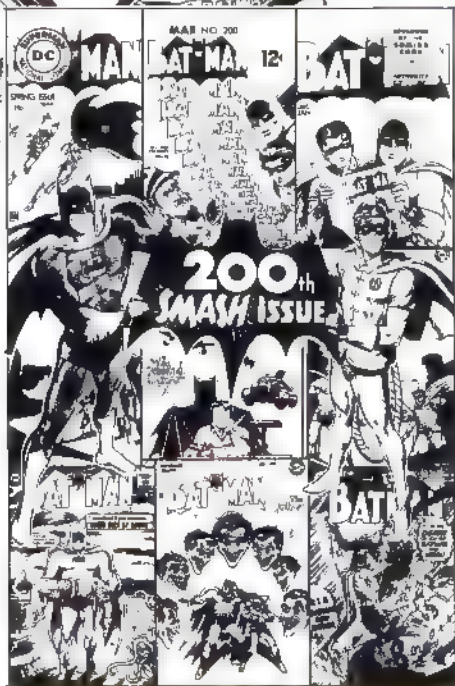




BAT-MAN

IN THE 60s





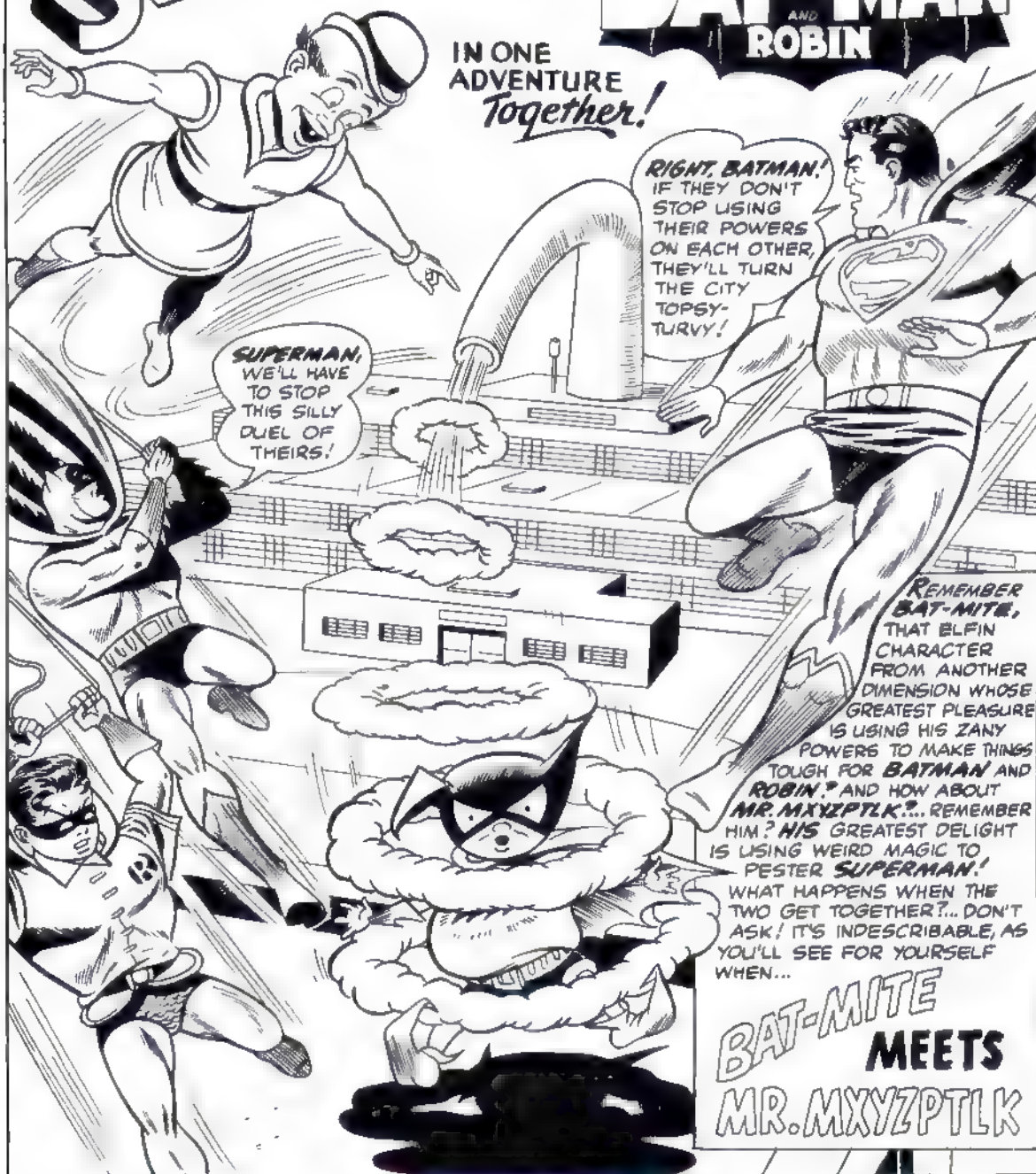
YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES

SUPERMAN
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

and

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN

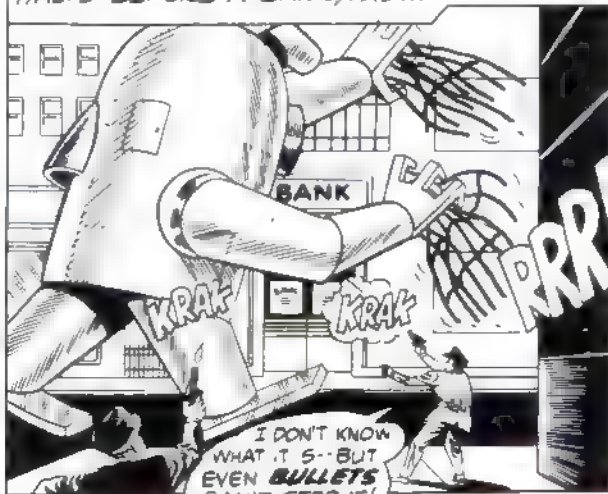
IN ONE
ADVENTURE
Together!



**BAT-MITE
MEETS
MR. MXYZPTLK**

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ONE DAY, A GROTESQUE, GIGANTIC THING OF METAL LUMBERS THROUGH GOTHAM CITY STREETS, HALTS BEFORE A BANK, AND...



MOMENTS LATER, SLIMMONED BY THE BAT-SIGNAL, TWO CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS ARRIVE ON THE SCENE...

GOLLY!... A GIANT, BULLET-PROOF CRIME ROBOT! HOW CAN WE STOP IT, BATMAN?

I HAVE AN IDEA, ROBIN... PART OF THAT EXHIBIT-- OVER THERE!



MEANWHILE, INSIDE THE ROBOT'S HEAD...

HA, HA! BATMAN AND ROBIN-- AS IF THEY COULD STOP US!



THE TWO MASKED FIGURES SWING TO THE TOP OF ONE OF THE DISPLAYS, AND...

WE'LL AIM THE GIANT FLAME AT THE STREET! THE TAR WILL MELT...



... AND TURN INTO A DEEP MORASS OF STICKY SUBSTANCE! THE MORE THE ROBOT TRIES TO STEP OUT, THE MORE ENTANGLED IT'LL GET!



BUT AN INSTANT LATER...

GREAT SCOTT!...IT HAS CONCEALED JETS! THAT THING CAN FLY!

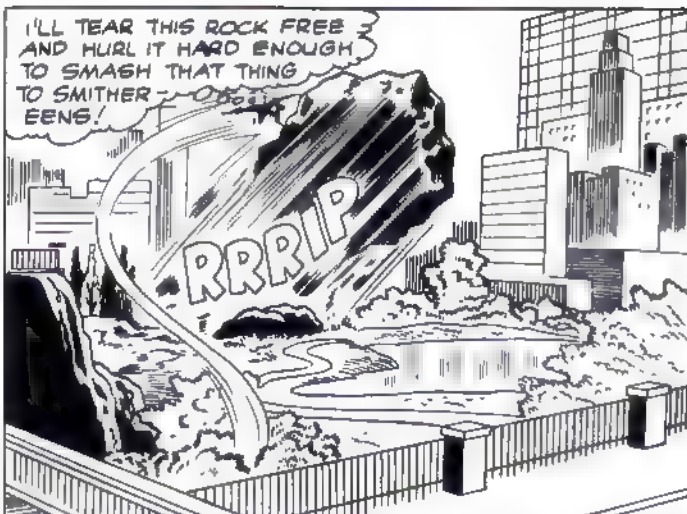


AT THIS VERY MOMENT, HOWEVER, NOT FAR AWAY...

BATMAN AND ROBIN DON'T KNOW I WAS SENT TO GOTHAM CITY AS CLARK KENT, TODAY, ON A STORY ASSIGNMENT. I CAN TAKE CARE OF THAT FLYING ROBOT FROM HERE!

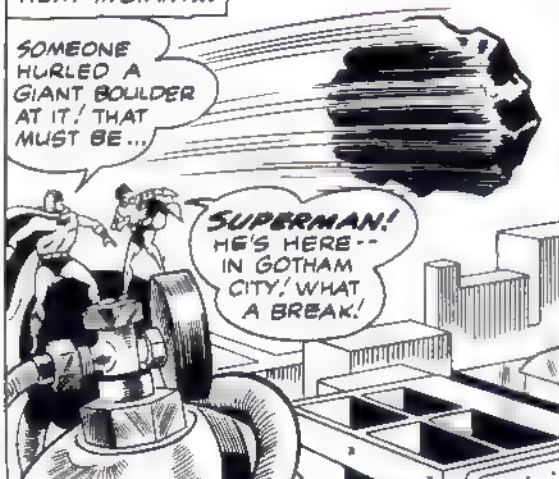


I'LL TEAR THIS ROCK FREE AND HURL IT HARD ENOUGH TO SMITHER -- OGGEEENS!



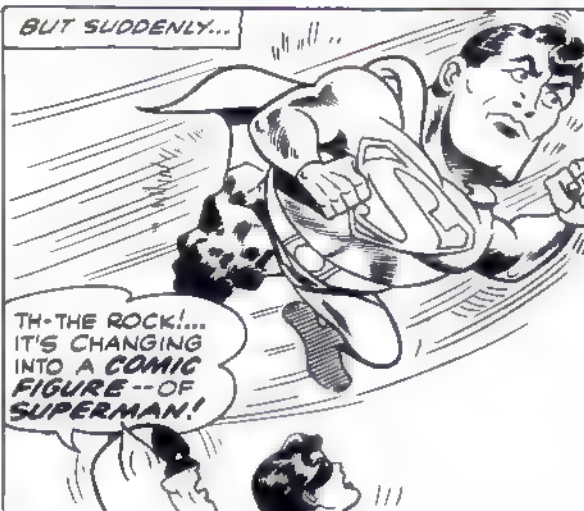
NEXT INSTANT...

SOMEONE HURLED A GIANT BOULDER AT IT! THAT MUST BE...



SUPERMAN! HE'S HERE -- IN GOTHAM CITY! WHAT A BREAK!

BUT SUDDENLY...



TH-THE ROCK!... IT'S CHANGING INTO A COMIC FIGURE -- OF SUPERMAN!

AND AS THE WEIRD FORM GOES PLUMMETING TO EARTH...

IT FELL RIGHT ACROSS THE STREET... BLOCKING TRAFFIC!

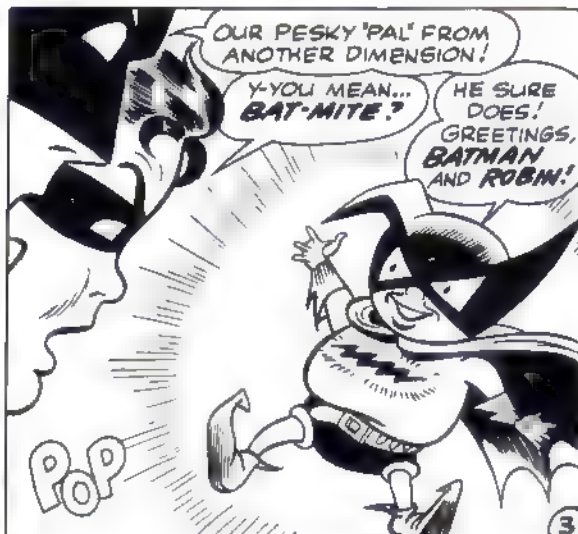


THIS INCREDIBLE INCIDENT CAN MEAN ONLY ONE THING...

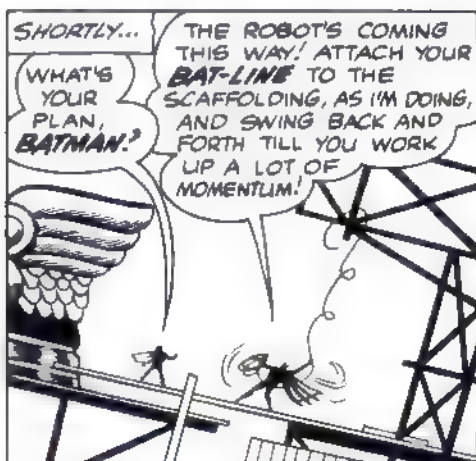
OUR PESKY 'PAL' FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION!

Y-YOU MEAN... BAT-MITE?

HE SURE DOES! GREETINGS, BATMAN AND ROBIN!







SHORTLY...

WHAT'S YOUR PLAN, BATMAN?

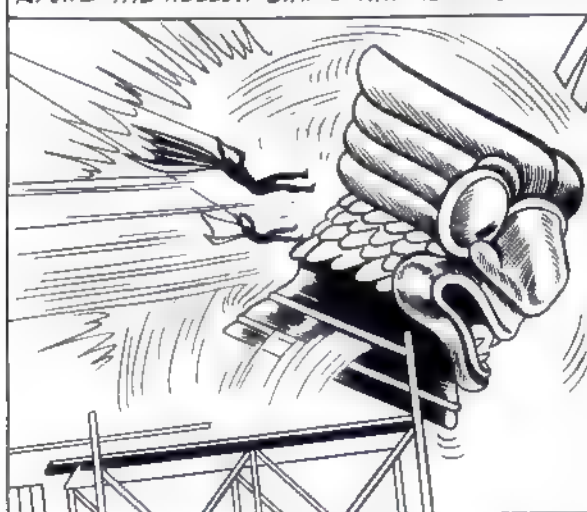
THE ROBOT'S COMING THIS WAY! ATTACH YOUR BAT-LINE TO THE SCAFFOLDING, AS I'M DOING, AND SWING BACK AND FORTH TILL YOU WORK UP A LOT OF MOMENTUM!



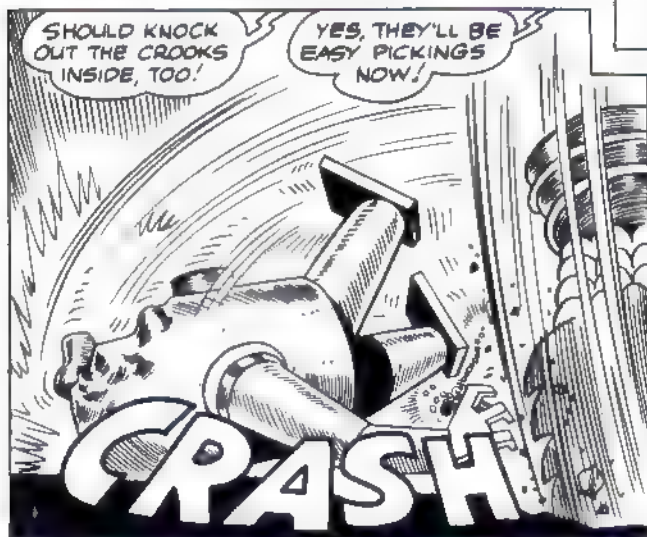
THE STATUE HASN'T BEEN FASTENED TO THE BASE YET, SO...

I GET IT! IT MAY WORK AT THAT!

AS THE ROBOT APPROACHES, THE DARING DUO RAMS THE HOLLOW STATUE WITH TERRIFIC FORCE.



IT'S WORKING, BATMAN! WE'RE TOPPLING THE ROBOT OVER!



SHOULD KNOCK OUT THE CROOKS INSIDE, TOO!

YES, THEY'LL BE EASY PICKINGS NOW!

BUT AT THAT INSTANT...



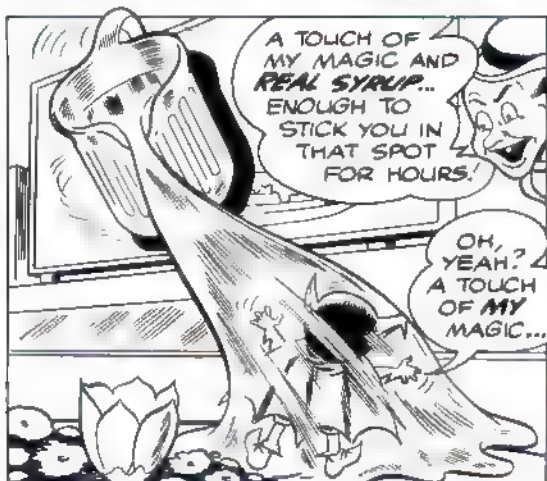
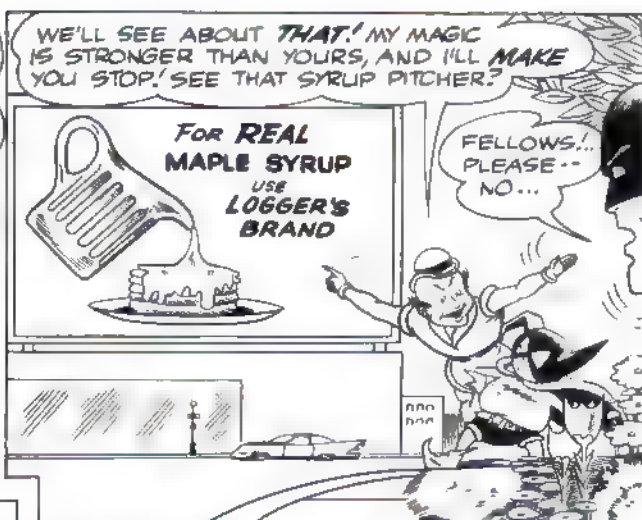
HELP!

GREAT SCOTT! OVER AT THE BOTANIC GARDENS... DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?

GULP! I G-GUESS I DO!

5





MEANWHILE THE ZANY DUEL OF MAGICAL POWERS GROWS HOTTER AND HOTTER...

PLEASE... STOP.. BEFORE YOU TURN THE CITY TOPSY-TURVY!

I'LL ONLY STOP WHEN HE AGREES TO STOP PESTERING **SUPERMAN!** SEE THAT SMOKESTACK?...



I'LL JUST AIM IT AT YOU!

H'MFF! A LOT OF GOOD **THAT** WILL DO YOU!



SMOKE INTO SMOKE RINGS--AND ALL OF THEM ...



...OVER YOU! WHAT'S MORE, THEY'RE **SOLID** NOW! YOU CAN'T MOVE A MUSCLE!



SO WHAT? I CAN CHANGE THEM TO **LIGHTNING BOLTS**...

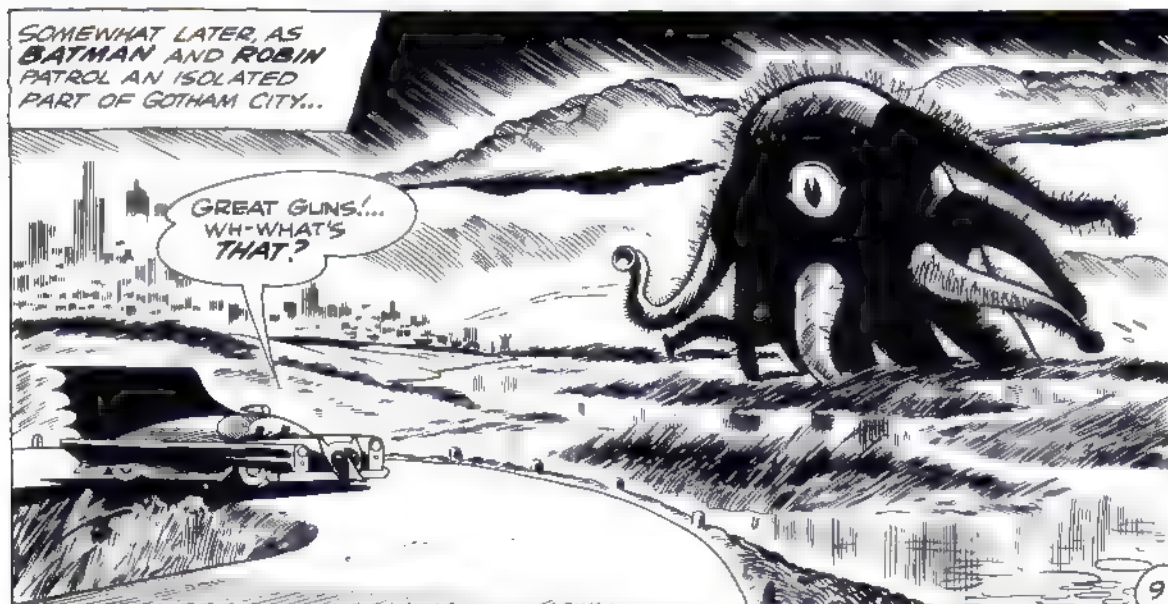
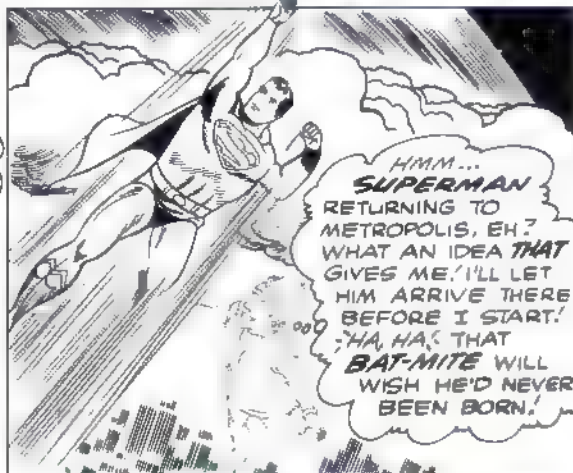
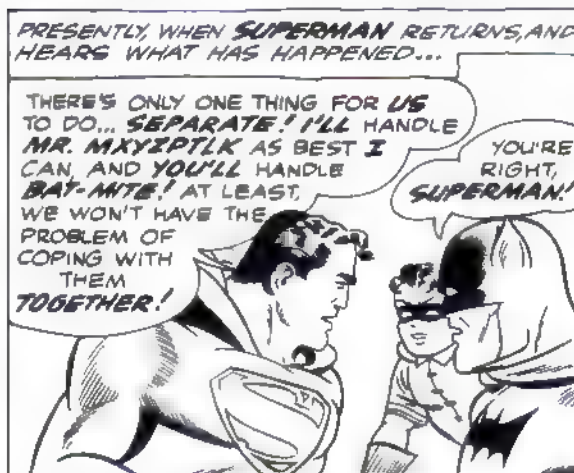
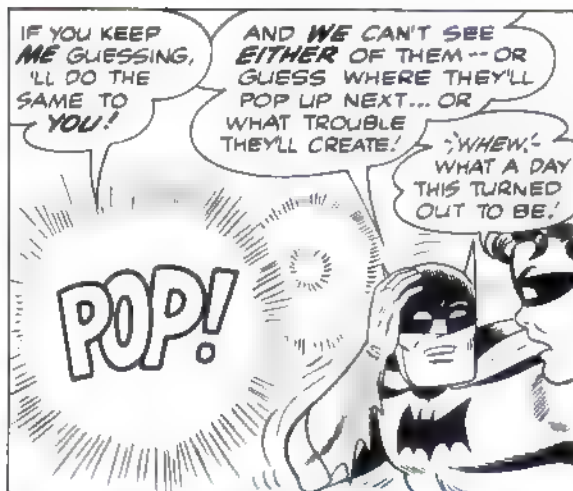
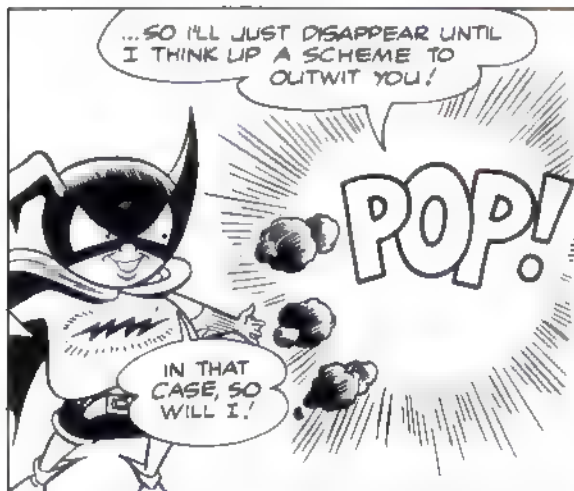


...ALL AIMED AT YOU!

GRRR!... YOUR MAGIC IS AS STRONG AS MINE! WELL... I DON'T THINK YOU'RE AS **CLEVER**...

BAM

BAM
BAM





WHATEVER IT IS, IT CAN SET THE WHOLE CITY AFIRE!

YES! STOP IT, BATMAN AND ROBIN... FAST!

SURE.. GO AHEAD AND DO JUST THAT!



'HA, HA.' WHAT A CUNNING LITTLE DEVIL I AM! SO BAT-MITE WANTS THEM TO DO HEROIC DEEDS! WELL... MY MAGIC MADE THAT MONSTER FOR THEM TO PRACTICE ON! BEFORE I'M THROUGH, THEY'LL BE PLEADING FOR SUPER-MAN'S HELP...



...BECAUSE I'LL KEEP ON CREATING DANGERS TOO HOT FOR THEM TO HANDLE, TILL BAT-MITE PROMISES TO LET SUPERMAN ALONE!

EASY, ROBIN... WE MUSTN'T PANIC AND DO SOMETHING RASH!

BAH! I SEE I'LL HAVE TO TAKE A HAND HERE...

ABRUPTLY...



EYOW! WE'RE BEING WHIRLED THROUGH THE AIR -- RIGHT TOWARD THAT WEIRD BEAST! BAT-MITE!... STOP!

I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO SEE WHAT INGENIOUS STUNT THEY'LL USE NOW -- UNEXPECTEDLY FACE-TO-FACE WITH THAT MONSTER!



THOSE PESKY SPRITES! BECAUSE OF THEM, WE'LL BE BURNED TO A CRISP!

BUT ALL AT ONCE...

THANK GOODNESS!...
A SUDDEN GUST OF
WIND-- SAVING US!



BUT THAT GUST OF WIND WAS NONE
OTHER THAN--THE MAN OF STEEL!

LUCKY I DECIDED TO KEEP WATCH ON
THEM WITH MY **TELESCOPIC VISION!**
THOSE IMPS ALMOST COST THEM THEIR
LIVES-- BUT NOW THEY'LL LAND
IN THE RIVER, SWIM
SAFELY TO
SHORE...



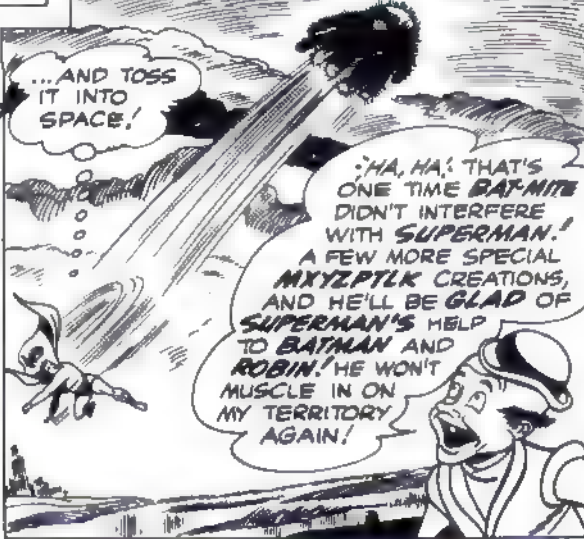
WHAMP!

...WHILE I
KNOCK THIS
THING OUT...



...AND TOSS
IT INTO
SPACE!

HA, HA! THAT'S
ONE TIME **BAT-NITE**
DIDN'T INTERFERE
WITH **SUPERMAN!**
A FEW MORE SPECIAL
MYZPTLK CREATIONS,
AND HE'LL BE GLAD OF
SUPERMAN'S HELP
TO **BATMAN** AND
ROBIN! HE WON'T
MUSCLE IN ON
MY TERRITORY
AGAIN!



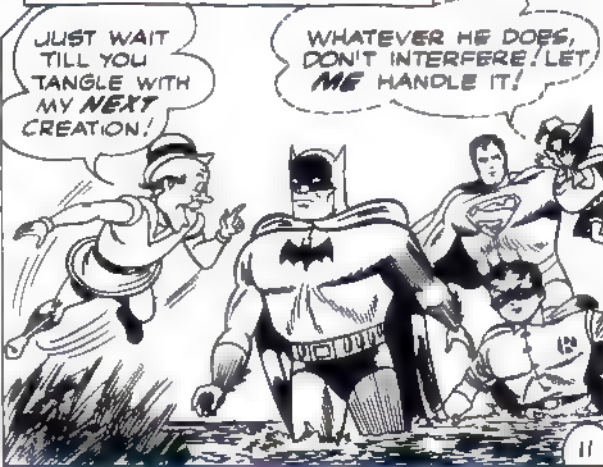
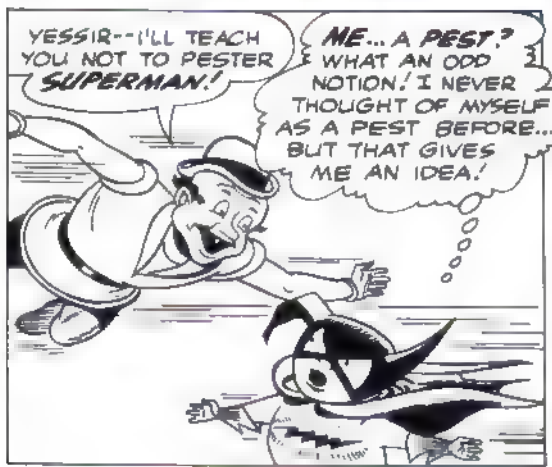
A LITTLE LATER, WHEN **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**
EMERGE FROM THE WATER ...

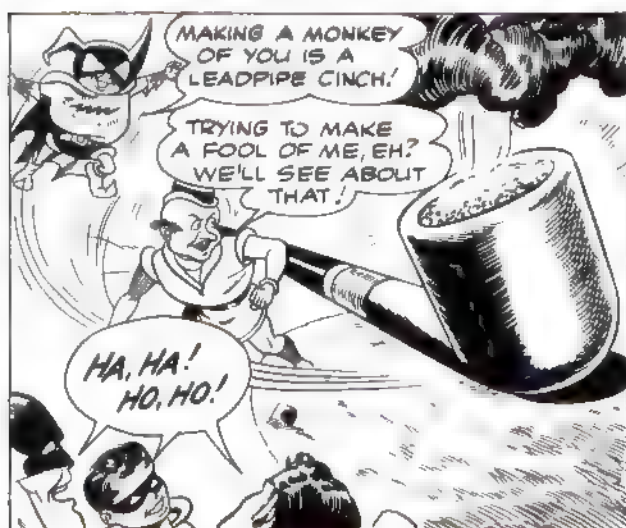
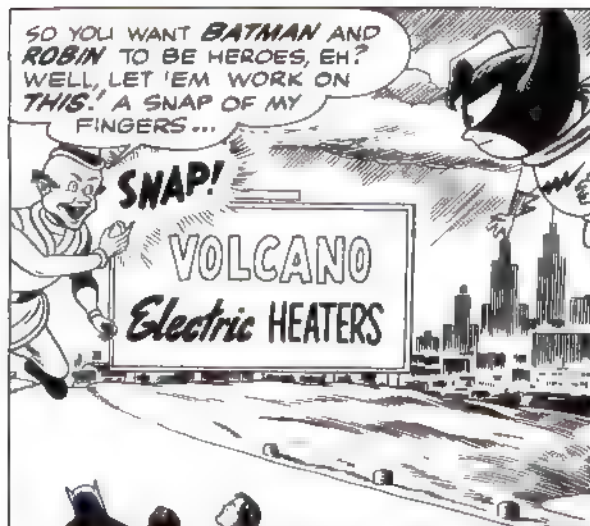
YESSIR--I'LL TEACH
YOU NOT TO PESTER
SUPERMAN!

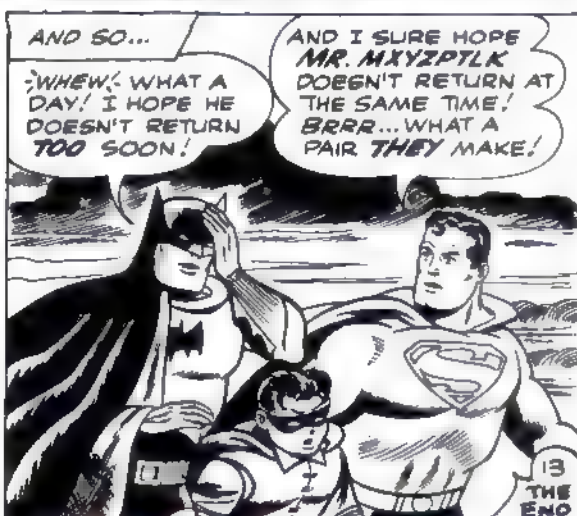
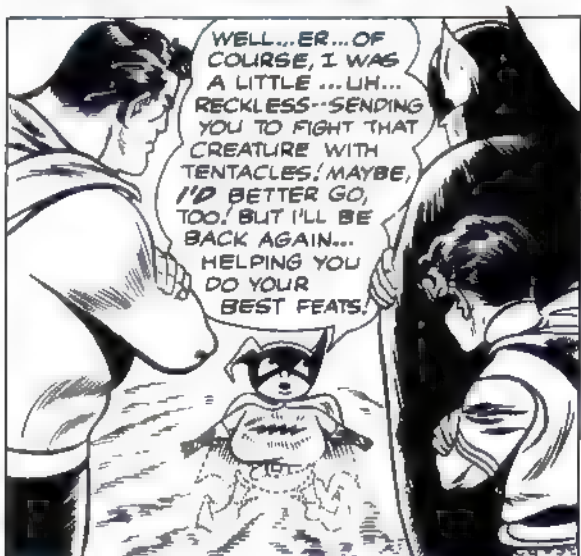
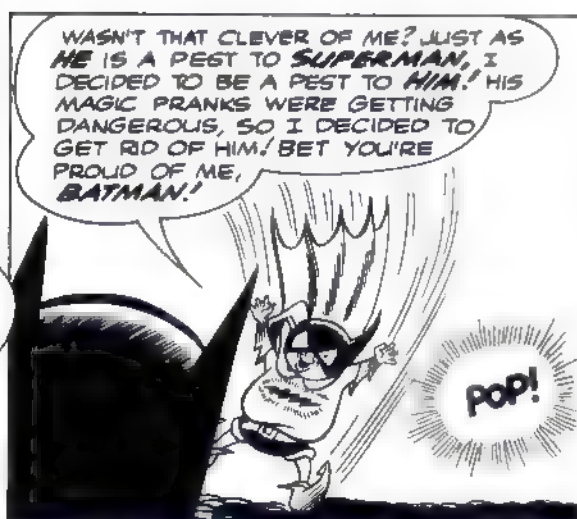
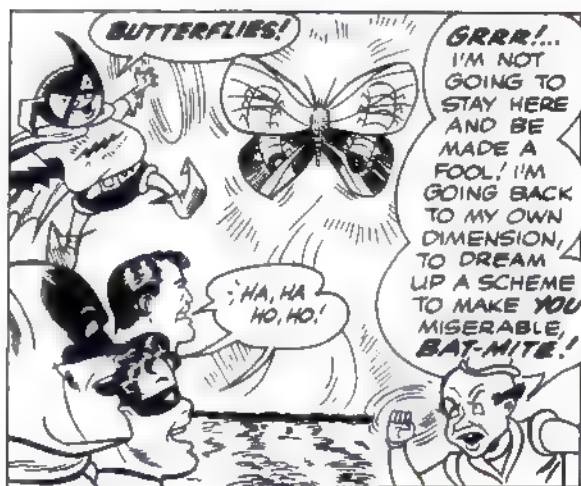
ME... A PEST?
WHAT AN ODD
NOTION! I NEVER
THOUGHT OF MYSELF
AS A PEST BEFORE...
BUT THAT GIVES
ME AN IDEA!

JUST WAIT
TILL YOU
TANGLE WITH
MY **NEXT**
CREATION!

WHATEVER HE DOES,
DON'T INTERFERE! LET
ME HANDLE IT!







SOME DAY, BATMAN WILL BE OLD--SOME DAY, BATMAN WILL HAVE TO RETIRE! WHEN THAT DAY COMES, ROBIN, A BOY NO LONGER, WILL BECOME HIS SUCCESSOR--BATMAN THE SECOND! BUT THEN, WHO WILL BECOME ROBIN THE SECOND? YOU WILL SOON SEE FOR YOURSELF, AS YOU TAKE A GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE AT...

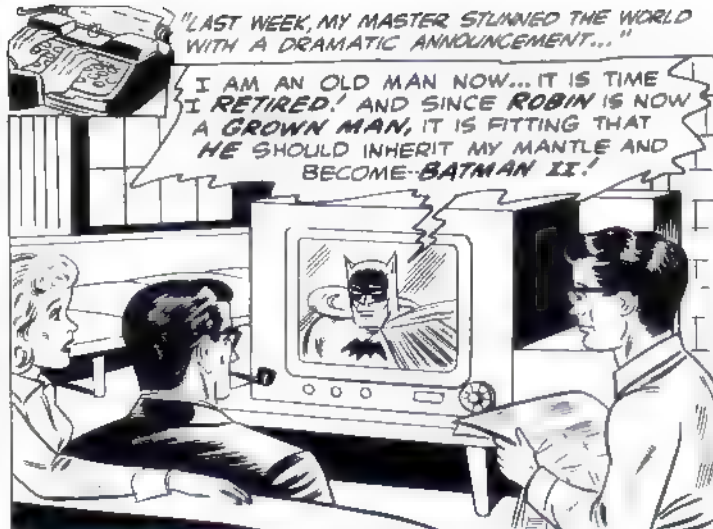
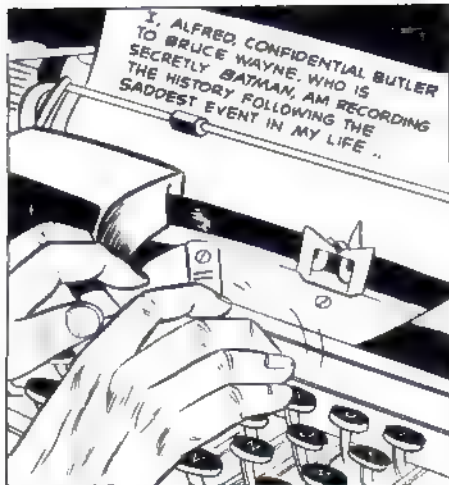
BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
"THE BOY WONDER"

the **SECOND** BATMAN and ROBIN **TEAM**



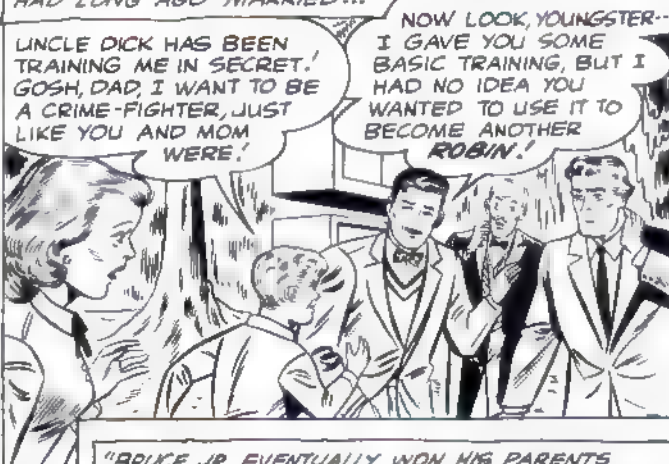
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"LATER, IN THE SECRET BAT-CAVE BENEATH OUR HOME, I WATCHED DICK GRAYSON, AS THE MASTER HUNG UP HIS BELOVED COSTUME FOREVER..."



"THE VOICE CAME FROM BRUCE WAYNE, JR.-- SON OF BATMAN AND KATHY KANE (BATWOMAN) WHOM HE HAD LONG AGO MARRIED..."



"BRUCE, JR. EVENTUALLY WON HIS PARENTS OVER--AND BEGAN HIS TRAINING IN EARNEST..."



"HE WAS TAUGHT EVERY PHASE OF CRIMINOLOGY BY THE MASTER OF CRIME-FIGHTING..."

AS YOU CAN SEE IODINE SPRAY WILL BRING OUT FINGERPRINTS! THAT'S IT, SON -- YOU'RE LEARNING FAST!



"THEN CAME THE DAY WHEN BRUCE, JR. DONNED HIS ROBIN COSTUME AND STOOD PROUDLY BEFORE HIS ANXIOUS PARENTS..."

TAKE GOOD CARE OF HIM, DICK... MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T GET HURT!

DON'T WORRY, I'LL WATCH HIM LIKE A HAWK!



"AND THEN WE OLDSTERS WERE ALONE..."

SOB! HE LOOKED SO HANDSOME IN HIS COSTUME! OUR LITTLE BOY SOB! IS GROWING UP SO FAST!

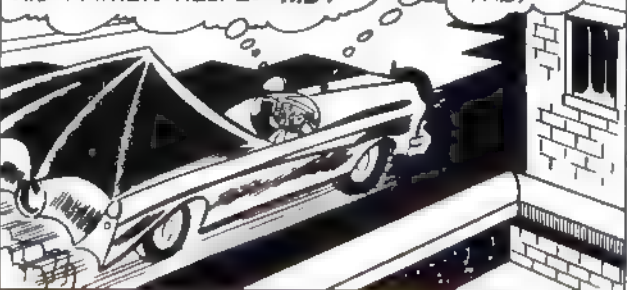
YES, MADAME -- HE'S A FINE BOY... A CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK!



"MEANWHILE, ON THEIR FIRST PATROL AS A TEAM BATMAN II AND ROBIN II HID THEIR WORRIES FROM EACH OTHER..."

I NEVER REALIZED WHAT A RESPONSIBILITY IT IS TO SHIELD A YOUNGSTER FROM DANGER! WILL I BE ABLE TO HELP YOUNG BRUCE AS WELL AS HIS FATHER HELPED ME?

WILL I MAKE AS GOOD A ROBIN AS UNCLE DICK WAS? GOLLY... I--I MUSTN'T FAIL!



"SUDDENLY..."

CALLING ALL CARS! MASKED BANDITS ATTEMPTING TO STEAL GEMS FROM TELEVISED AUCTION SHOW!

THE TELEVISION STUDIOS ARE ON THE NEXT STREET... HERE WE GO! EXCITED, ROBIN?

Y-YES... I S-SURE AM!



"MINUTES LATER, THE TEAM OF BATMAN II AND ROBIN II TACKLED ITS FIRST CRIME..."

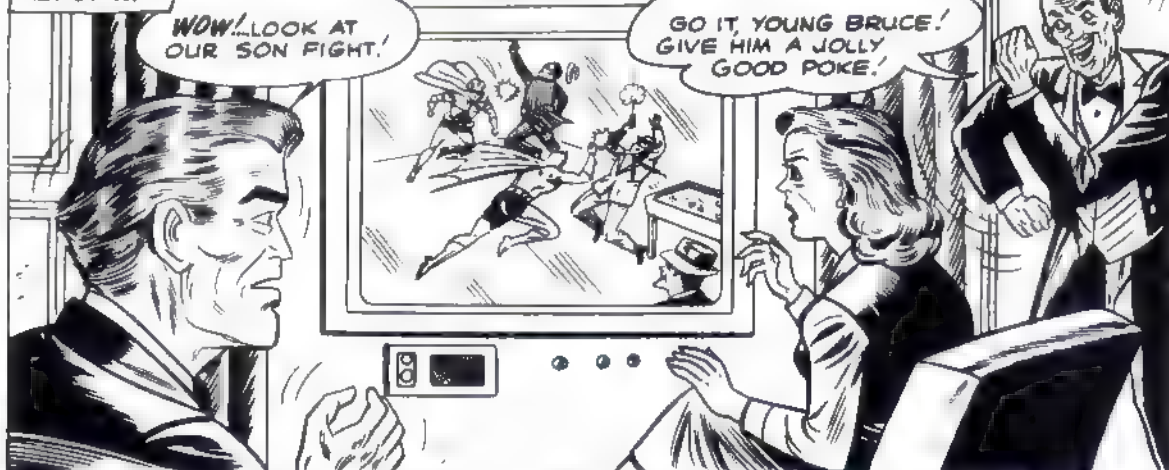
HUH--? IT'S THE NEW BATMAN AND ROBIN!



"AT HOME, WATCHING THAT TV SHOW, WE COULD NOW SEE OUR LITTLE 'FAMILY' IN ACTION..."

WOW! LOOK AT OUR SON FIGHT!

GO IT, YOUNG BRUCE! GIVE HIM A JOLLY GOOD POKE!



"TEARING THEMSELVES LOOSE, THE BANDITS FLED INTO ANOTHER STUDIO--AND THERE, IN HIS NERVOUSNESS, BRUCE, JR. MADE HIS FIRST MISTAKE..."

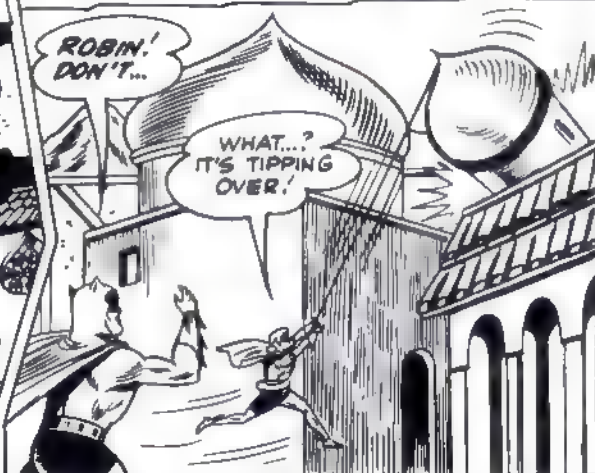
I'LL SWING ACROSS THIS ANCIENT BAGHDAD SET ON MY BAT-ROPE... CUT THEM OFF AT THE EXIT!



"TOO LATE, BATMAN II REALIZED THE BOY'S PLAN AND SHOUTED A WARNING..."

ROBIN! DON'T...

WHAT...? IT'S TIPPING OVER!



HA! NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO GET AWAY CLEAN!

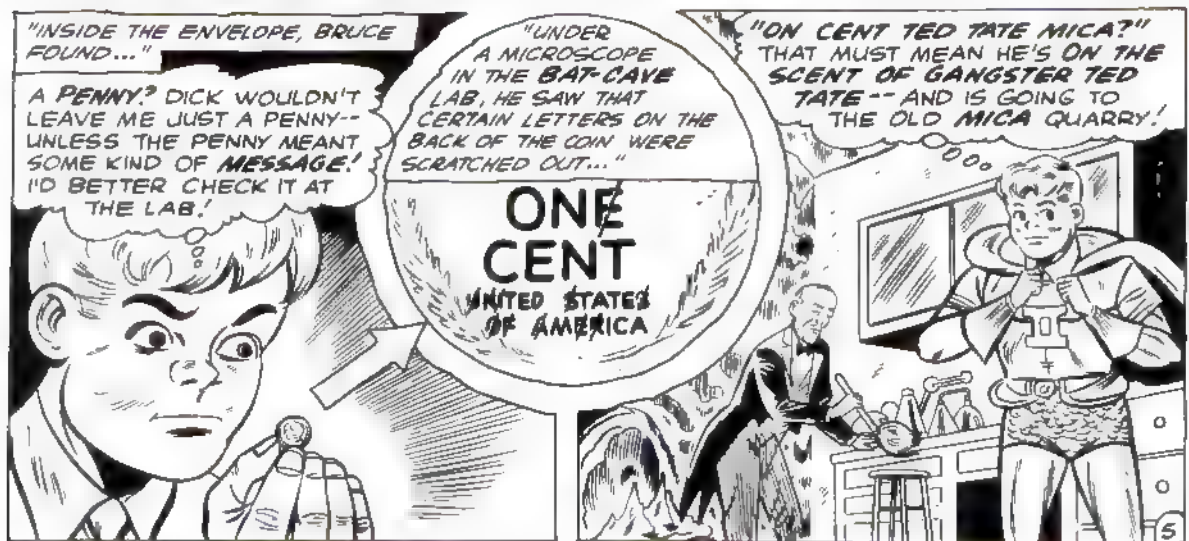
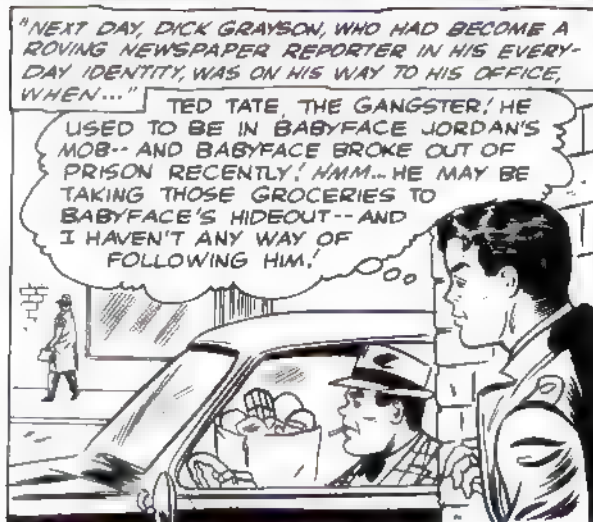


"AFTERWARD..."

I-I'M SORRY, BATMAN... I-I FORGOT THE PROP WAS MADE OF PAPIER MACHE AND COULDN'T HOLD MY WEIGHT!

WE ALL MAKE MISTAKES, ROBIN-- ESPECIALLY WHEN WE'RE TRYING TOO HARD! DON'T WORRY-- YOU'LL MAKE AN ACE CRIME-FIGHTER YET!





"BECAUSE YOUNG BRUCE LEFT HURRIEDLY IN HIS ROBIN COSTUME, I THOUGHT IT BEST TO NOTIFY THE MASTER..."

WHAT?... HE LEFT ALONE? I'D BETTER SEE WHAT HE WAS EXAMINING UNDER THE MICROSCOPE!



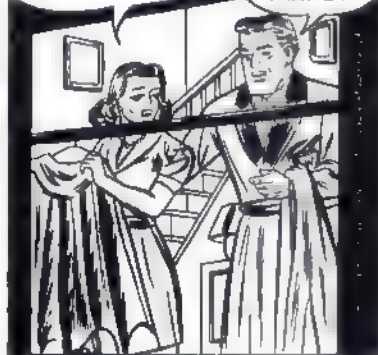
"ONE LOOK EXPLAINED EVERYTHING--AND THE MASTER CAME TO A QUICK DECISION..."

TATE COULD BE HIDING BABYFACE JORDAN! IF SO, HIS ENTIRE MOB WILL BE MEETING THERE! OUR BOY ISN'T EXPERIENCED ENOUGH TO HELP DICK HANDLE THAT GANG... IT COULD PROVE DANGEROUS... THEY'LL NEED HELP!



YOU'RE NOT GOING WITHOUT ME! IF BRUCE, JR. IS IN DANGER, I WANT TO HELP, TOO! AFTER ALL, HE'S MY SON TOO!

NOW LOOK, HONEY-- YOU JUST CAN'T COME ALONG, AND THAT'S FINAL!



"NATURALLY, NO MAN EVER WINS AN ARGUMENT WITH A WOMAN--AND SO..."

NOT BAD FOR AN OLD GAL, EH? MY COSTUME STILL FITS ME--THOUGH I DID HAVE TO COVER MY GRAYING HAIR WITH A WIG!

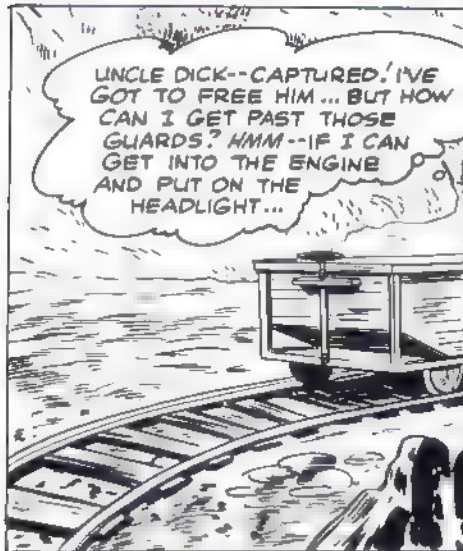


"MEANWHILE, ROBIN II HAD REACHED THE ENTRANCE TO THE OLD MICA QUARRY, AND CREPT STEALTHILY FORWARD..."

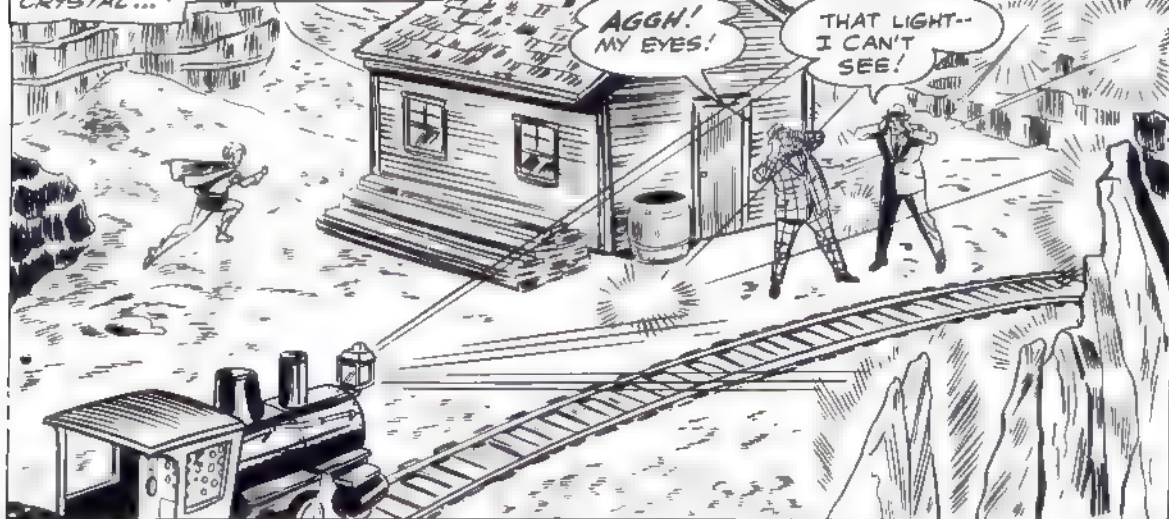
WE REALLY TOOK BATMAN II BY SURPRISE WHEN WE JUMPED HIM! WE'LL JUST KEEP HIM IN THE SHACK UNTIL BABYFACE DECIDES WHAT TO DO WITH HIM!



UNCLE DICK--CAPTURED! I'VE GOT TO FREE HIM... BUT HOW CAN I GET PAST THOSE GUARDS? HMM--IF I CAN GET INTO THE ENGINE AND PUT ON THE HEADLIGHT...



"MOMENTS LATER, AS THE HEADLIGHT'S BEAM GLINTED GLARINGLY OFF THE LAYERS OF MICA CRYSTAL..."



AGGH!
MY EYES!

THAT LIGHT--
I CAN'T
SEE!

"TEMPORARILY BLINDED, THE CRIMINALS DID NOT SEE ROBIN II SLIP PAST THEM AND ENTER THE SHACK..."



ROBIN! I KNEW YOU'D
FIGURE OUT MY MESSAGE!
YOU'RE OKAY, YOUNGSTER!

I'LL HAVE YOU
FREE IN A SEC!
GOSH, HOW'D
YOU KNOW THIS
WAS TATE'S
HIDEOUT?

AFTER TATE CAME OUT OF THE GROCERY STORE, SOMETHING DROPPED OUT OF HIS TROUSER CLUFF! I EXAMINED IT--AND SAW IT WAS CRUDE MICA ORE--SO I KNEW WE HAD TO BE HANGING AROUND HERE!

WELL, WE'D BETTER
NOT HANG AROUND
HERE. THOSE GUARDS
WILL BE CHECKING
HERE ANY MINUTE...
LET'S GO!



HOW ABOUT A
TAP ON THE
PATE, TATE?

OOOH! YOU PUN
ALMOST AS BADLY
AS I DID WHEN I
WAS ROBIN!



"IT WAS AT THIS MOMENT THAT BABYFACE'S MOBSTERS ARRIVED FOR A MEETING WITH THEIR OLD GANG BOSS, AND..."

LOOKS LIKE WE
GOT HERE JUST IN
TIME, BOYS! GRAB
'EM!

UH-OH... WE'VE GOT A
TOUGH BATTLE ON OUR
HANDS NOW, YOUNGSTER!

"THOUGH THEY FOUGHT VALIANTLY, THE ODDS WERE TOO MUCH FOR THEM--AND SOON..."

CHEE!... THIS KID'S A WILDCAT! HOLD HIM!

C'MON, BOYS--WE'LL TAKE THEM TO THE BOSS! HE'S IN THE BACK OF THE QUARRY!



"BUT JUST AS THEY REACHED BABYFACE..."

LOOK!... BATMAN AND BATWOMAN! QUICK--GET BEHIND HERE--WE'LL HOLD 'EM OFF!

OKAY, BABYFACE!



OH, DEAR...WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO GET THROUGH THAT BARRAGE OF GUNFIRE!

SURE WE CAN, HONEY! COME ON--WE'RE GOING FOR A RIDE!

BANG!

BANG!

BANG!



"SECONDS LATER, AS THE TRAIN BEGAN CHUGGING DEEP INTO THE QUARRY..."

KEEP DOWN, HONEY!

GET BACK! THAT ENGINE'S COMING RIGHT AT US!



OKAY, TEAM--LET'S GO TO WORK!

CRASH



"WHAT A SPECTACLE!... THREE GENERATIONS OF CRIME-FIGHTERS. COMBINING FORCES TO COMBAT THE ENEMIES OF LAW AND ORDER!"

GOLLY--WE'RE LIKE THE THREE MUSKETEERS!

BUT WE DON'T NEED ANY SWORDS!

OUR FISTS ARE ALL WE NEED!



"LATER, WITH THE MOBSTERS IMPRISONED, THERE WAS A JOYOUS REUNION IN THE BAT-CAVE..."

YOU WERE WONDERFUL, SON... I'M PROUD OF YOU!

YES--IT LOOKS LIKE THE NEW TEAM OF BATMAN AND ROBIN IS HERE TO STAY!



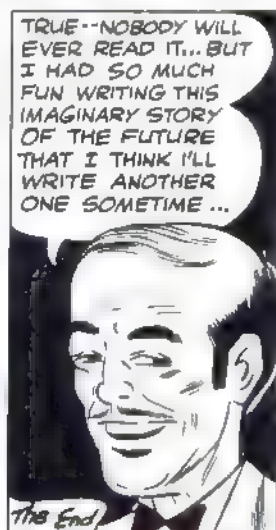
ALFRED, WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?

HUH? OH...

WELL, YOU SEE, SIR--I JUST WANTED TO TRY OUT THIS NEW TYPEWRITER, AND BEFORE I REALIZED IT, I WAS WRITING A STORY OF WHAT POSSIBLY MIGHT HAPPEN TO US ALL IN THE FUTURE!

TOO BAD IT CAN'T BE PUBLISHED BECAUSE IT WOULD GIVE AWAY MY SECRET IDENTITY! NOBODY WILL EVER READ IT!

TRUE--NOBODY WILL EVER READ IT... BUT I HAD SO MUCH FUN WRITING THIS IMAGINARY STORY OF THE FUTURE THAT I THINK I'LL WRITE ANOTHER ONE SOMETIME ...



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

CRIMINALS, BEWARE! A NEW CRIME-FIGHTER IS COMING YOUR WAY! YOU THOUGHT YOU HAD TROUBLE BATTLING **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**-- YOU THOUGHT YOU HAD TO BE WARY OF **BATWOMAN**-- BUT WAIT TILL YOU COME UP AGAINST A PRETTY TEEN-AGER! YOU'D BETTER SCRAM-- TAKE IT ON THE LAM-- BECAUSE HERE SHE COMES...

BAT-GIRL!



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AT AN EXHIBIT OF NEW SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** LASH OUT AT TWO OF **CRIMEDOM'S** NEWEST THREAT-- **THE COBRA GANG**...

TWO DOWN--TWO MORE TO GO!

...WHILE ANOTHER IS FELLEED BY THEIR ALLY-- **BATWOMAN**!

THERE'S STILL ANOTHER ONE LOOSE AROUND HERE, **BATMAN**! WE'D BETTER FIND HIM!

AND AS I TURN THIS DIAL, THE CIRCLE OF ELECTRICITY TIGHTENS AROUND YOU UNTIL...

BUT THEIR SEARCH COMES TO AN ABRUPT END WHEN...

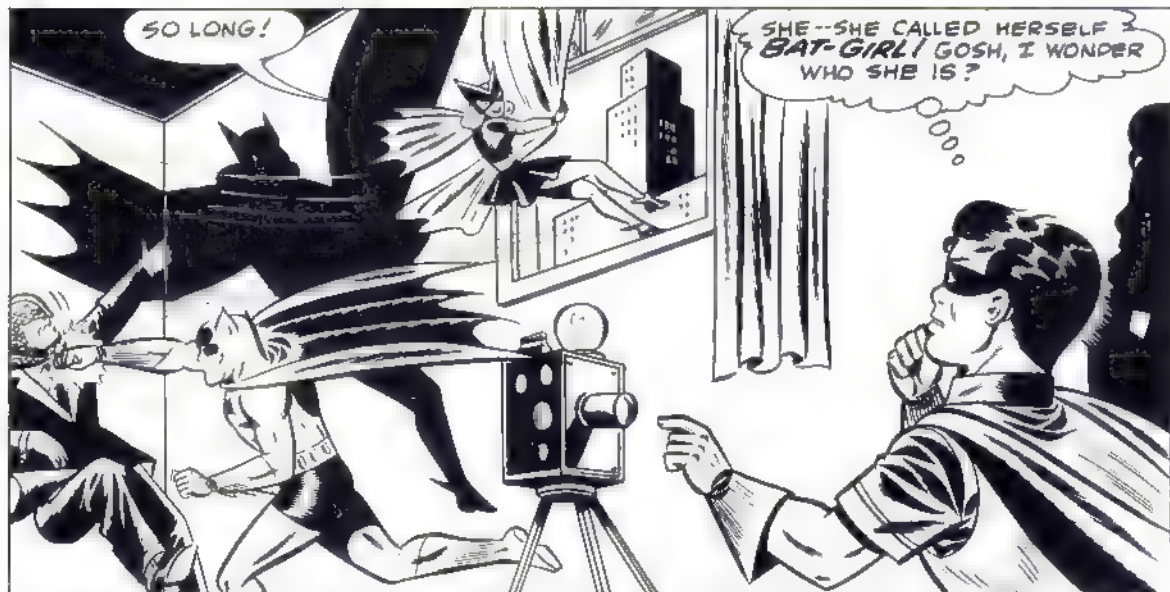
GREAT SCOTT! HE TURNED THE **ELECTRONIC-RING** ON US!

SUDDENLY--AN ASTONISHING VISITOR INTERVENES...

DON'T WORRY, EVERYBODY--**BAT-GIRL** WILL TAKE CARE OF HIM!

B-BAT-GIRL?

NOW TO SWITCH OFF THE **ELECTRONIC-RING**-- SO YOU CAN TAKE OVER, **BATMAN**!



LATER, AS **BATWOMAN**, PUZZLED BY THE GIRL'S IDENTITY, RETURNS TO HER LAIR...

WHO IS THIS AMAZING TEEN-AGER? HOW AND WHY DID SHE ASSUME THIS DISGUISE? FOR THE ANSWERS, WE MUST GLANCE BACK TO SOME DAYS BEFORE...

...WHEN WEALTHY HEIRESS, KATHY KANE, HAD AN UNEXPECTED VISITOR...

WELL--DID I DO ALL RIGHT, AUNT KATHY?

BETTY! SO IT'S YOU! AND YOU'VE LEARNED MY SECRET DISGUISE!

HI, AUNT KATHY! YOU ONCE SAID I COULD VISIT YOU--SO HERE I AM!

THIS WILL COMPLICATE THINGS! I'LL BE SECRETLY GOING OUT SO MUCH AS **BATWOMAN**, I HOPE IT DOESN'T AROUSE HER SUSPICION!

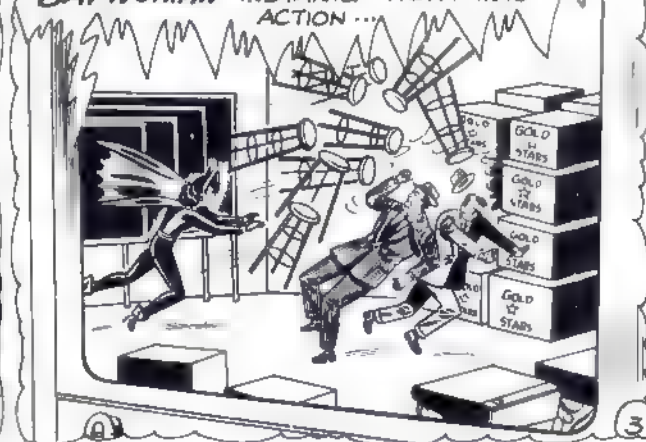
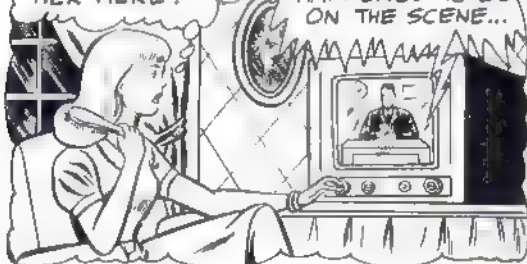


AS DAYS PASSED, KATHY'S FEAR BECAME WELL JUSTIFIED...

I WONDER WHERE AUNT KATHY GOES EVERY NIGHT? IF SHE'S DATING A SPECIAL PERSON, WHY DOESN'T HE EVER CALL FOR HER HERE?

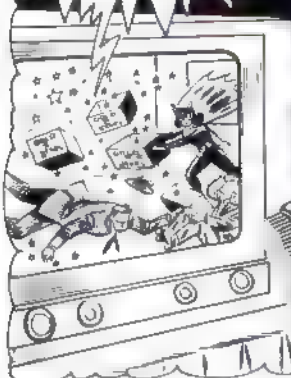
...AND NOW FOR A NEWS EXCLUSIVE--ACTUAL FILMS OF **BATWOMAN** IN ACTION--TAKEN BY A NEWS CAMERAMAN WHO HAPPENED TO BE ON THE SCENE...

SURPRISING THIEVES ROBBING THE SAFE OF A MANUFACTURER OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES, **BATWOMAN** INSTANTLY WENT INTO ACTION...



AS THE THUGS FELL BACK, UPSETTING CARTONS OF GOLD STARS, **BAT-WOMAN** FOLLOWED TO MAKE THE CAPTURE!

GOLLY! SHE'S WONDERFUL! HOW I WISH I COULD BE LIKE HER!



AND SO BETTY HAD PROMPTLY SET OUT TO MAKE HER WISH COME TRUE...

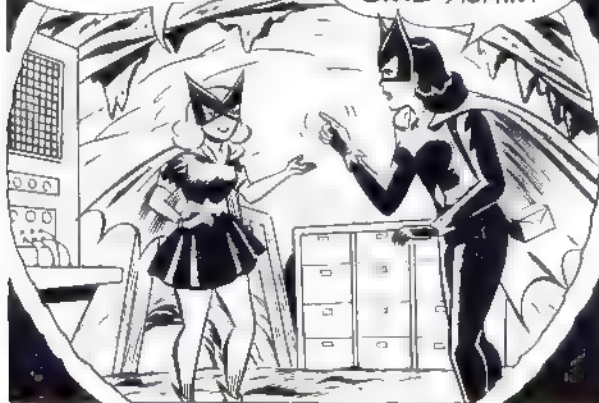
BUT, BETTY--HOW-- HOW DID YOU GUESS I WAS **BATWOMAN**?

WHEN I BRUSHED MY HAIR WITH YOUR BRUSH, SOME **GOLD STARS** FELL OUT! I REALIZED THOSE STARS COULD ONLY HAVE GOTTEN ON IT WHEN YOU BRUSHED YOUR HAIR AFTER YOUR CAPTURE OF THOSE CROOKS!



SO I SECRETLY MADE MYSELF A COSTUME-- AND TONIGHT I TRAILED YOU!

YOU WERE VERY CLEVER, BETTY-- BUT YOU MUST NEVER BE **BAT-GIRL** AGAIN!



IF YOU CAN BE **BATWOMAN**, I CAN CERTAINLY BE **BAT-GIRL**! MAYBE WE CAN BE A TEAM--LIKE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**!

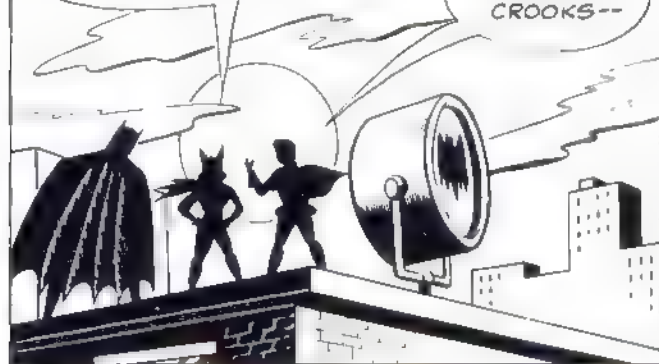
SHE HAS NO IDEA HOW DANGEROUS FIGHTING IS! I'D BETTER GET **BATMAN'S** ADVICE ON HOW TO COPE WITH BETTY!



LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

BETTY'S BRIGHT AND SHE LEARNS QUICKLY--BUT SHE'S ALSO VERY HEADSTRONG! WHAT CAN I DO TO DISSUADE HER?

GOSH, **BATMAN**-- AN INEXPERIENCED GIRL IS BOUND TO GET HURT PURSUING CROOKS--



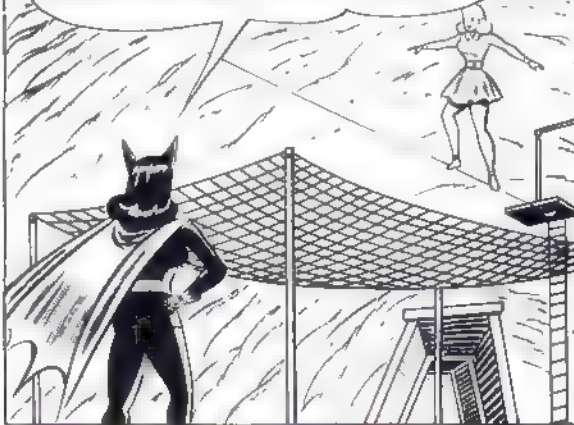
THAT'S IT! SUPPOSE, **BATWOMAN**, YOU **PRETEND** YOU'LL ALLOW HER TO BE **BAT-GIRL**--BUT ONLY AFTER A LOT OF TRAINING...

FINE! I'LL **STALL** HER BY KEEPING HER IN TRAINING UNTIL IT'S TIME FOR HER TO RETURN HOME!



AND SO, THE RIGID TRAINING PROGRAM GETS UNDER WAY...

YOU'RE A NATURAL ATHLETE, BETTY-- BUT THIS WILL TEACH YOU TO BE SURE-FOOTED AT ALL TIMES!



DAY AFTER DAY, BATWOMAN ADDS TO THE GIRL'S ASSIGNMENTS TO OCCUPY ALMOST EVERY MOMENT OF HER TIME...

GOSH, AUNT KATHY, WHEN AM I GOING OUT WITH YOU ON A CASE?

ER... WHEN YOU'VE FINISHED TRAINING! Y-YOU'RE NOT READY YET!



AFTER BATWOMAN LEAVES...

"NOT READY YET"--HMPH! I'VE GOT A FEELING SHE'S DELIBERATELY STALLING ME!



THIS SHOE WAS TAKEN FROM ONE OF THE COBRA GANG ARRESTED BY THE POLICE! WHEN IT FELL TO THE FLOOR, SOME PARTICLES, STUCK INSIDE, BECAME LOOSE! I'D BETTER DO A CHEMICAL ANALYSIS ON THEM RIGHT AWAY...



SOON AFTER...

CELLULOSE ACETATE! I READ ABOUT IT IN SCHOOL! THAT'S USED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF GUNPOWDER, RAYON, AND OTHER PRODUCTS!



I'LL BET THEIR HIDEOUT IS A PLACE THAT ONCE USED CELLULOSE! SO AUNT KATHY THINKS I'M "NOT READY YET"--HUH? I'LL SHOW HER! BAT-GIRL WILL SEARCH EVERYWHERE UNTIL SHE LOCATES THE COBRA GANG'S HIDEOUT!



THIS, SOMETIME LATER, THE DETERMINED GIRL COMES TO THE END OF HER HUNT...

JUST AS I THOUGHT--AN ABANDONED RAYON PLANT...AND THAT MUST BE THE BOSS HIMSELF--**KING COBRA**! I--I REALLY SHOULD NOTIFY AUNT KATHY... BUT I'M **NOT**! I'LL PROVE TO HER I **AM** READY!



THIS **SELF-INFLATING** BALLOON FROM MY **CRIME COMPACT** WILL STARTLE THEM SO, I'LL BE ABLE TO LASO THEM WITH MY **BAT-ROPE**!



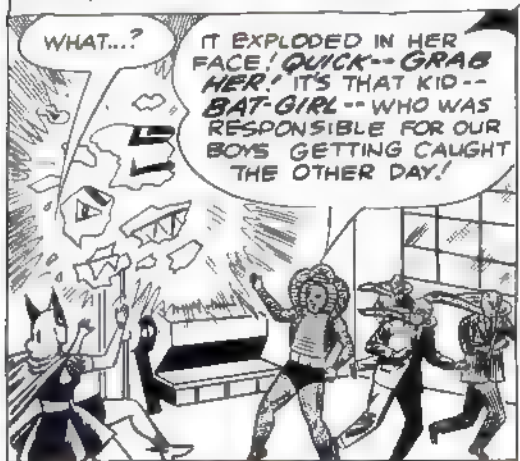
I FOUND YOU MYSELF--AND NOW I'LL CAPTURE YOU MYSELF!



BUT, AS THE SURPRISED GANG BOSS' LIGHTED CIGAR FLIES FROM HIS HAND, IT TOUCHES THE BALLOON AND...

WHAT...?

IT EXPLODED IN HER FACE! **QUICK--GRAB HER!** IT'S THAT KID--**BAT-GIRL**--WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR BOYS GETTING CAUGHT THE OTHER DAY!



MINUTES LATER...

WE'LL LOCK HER UP IN THIS OLD OFFICE--AND KEEP HER AS A HOSTAGE TO FORCE **BATMAN** TO RELEASE OUR PALS FROM JAIL!



ALONE NOW, BAT-GIRL REALIZES THE DAMAGE HER OVER-CONFIDENCE HAS CAUSED...

OH, WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN! THOSE CROOKS **BATMAN, ROBIN AND BATWOMAN** CAUGHT, WILL BE FREED--AND ALL BECAUSE OF ME! IF I COULD ONLY MAKE UP FOR MY MISTAKE...

HMM! THESE SHEETS OF THIN CARBON PAPER--AND THAT VENTILATOR! I'VE GOT AN IDEA! IF I CUT THE CARBON PAPER INTO BAT-LIKE SHAPES--!

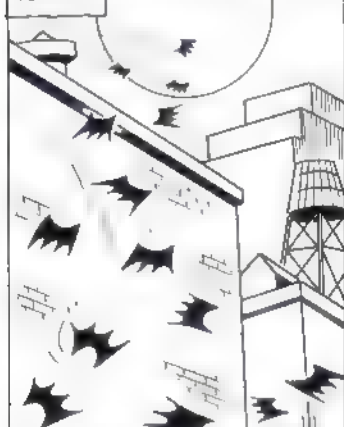


SOON AFTER, AN UPDRAFT WAFTS THE CUTOUTS TO THE ROOF'S EXHAUST VENT...

SOMETIME LATER...

HUH? THEY FOUND US, TOO!

UHP! WE'RE FINISHED!



PAPER "BATS"! IT'S SOME KIND OF **BAT-SIGNAL!** I'D BETTER CALL THE POLICE ABOUT THIS!



NOT YET! I'VE STILL GOT AN ACE! HOLD THEM OFF!



SWIFTLY, THE CUNNING CRIME CHIEF RETURNS...



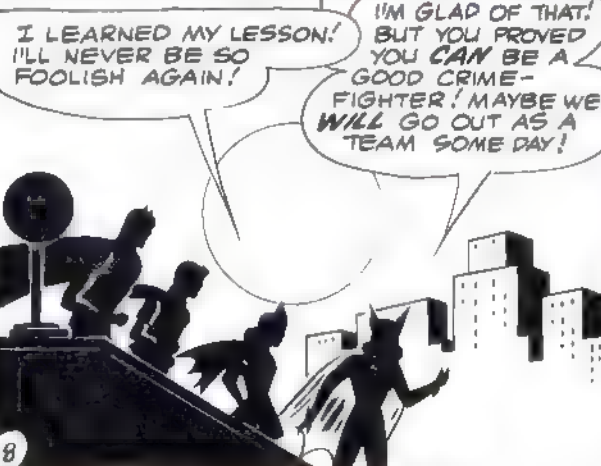
BUT AS SHE SEEMINGLY COLLAPSES...



AS IF ON SIGNAL, THE CRIME-FIGHTING QUARTET CATAPULTS INTO ACTION...



LATER, AFTER THE THUGS HAVE BEEN TURNED OVER TO THE POLICE...



OH, I CAN HARDLY WAIT! AND PERHAPS ROBIN AND I CAN WORK ON A CASE TOGETHER, TOO! WELL, ROBIN-- IS THAT A DATE?



BAT-MAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

WATCH OUT!... **BAT-GIRL'S** BACK--
AND SO IS **BAT-MITE!** WHEN THOSE
TWO ARE AROUND, ANYTHING CAN
HAPPEN--AND USUALLY DOES! YOU
CAN IMAGINE THE DOUBLE-TROUBLE
IN STORE WHEN **BAT-MITE** DECIDES
TO TEAM UP WITH **BAT-GIRL**, IN HER
CAMPAIGN TO WIN **ROBIN'S**
AFFECTIONS! SO SETTLE BACK AND
WATCH THE FIREWORKS, WHEN...

BAT-MITE MEETS BAT-GIRL



SUMMONED TO COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** FIND A SURPRISE AWAITING THEM...

BATWOMAN!...AND WITH HER IS HER NIECE, BETTY-- WEARING HER **BAT-GIRL** COSTUME!

BATMAN, IT WAS I WHO ASKED **BATWOMAN** TO GET **BAT-GIRL** HERE-- TO HELP OUT!



YOU AND **BATWOMAN** MUST FLY TO WASHINGTON AT ONCE-- TO TESTIFY BEFORE A SENATE CRIME COMMITTEE! WHILE YOU ARE GONE, I'D LIKE **BAT-GIRL** TO TEAM UP WITH **ROBIN**, IN PATROLLING GOTHAM CITY!

OH, NO! THAT'S ALL I NEED... **BAT-GIRL** HOUNDING ME WHEREVER I GO!



INDEED, NO SOONER IS THE YOUNG COUPLE ALONE THAN...

'SIGH! WORKING WITH YOU IS WHAT I'VE ALWAYS DREAMED OF! OH, **ROBIN**-- I THINK YOU'RE JUST ADORABLE!

B-BAT-GIRL... PLEASE...



Y-YOU'VE JUST GOT TO STOP DOING THAT! IT--IT SN'T RGT ESPECIALLY SINCE I'M... ER... DEVOTED TO ANOTHER WOMAN!

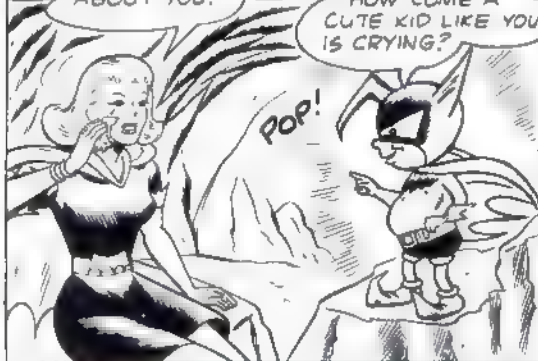
ANOTHER WOMAN? OH, **ROBIN**... 'SOB! Y-YOU CAN'T MEAN THAT!



HEARTBROKEN, THE LOVESTRUCK LASS RETURNS TO **BATWOMAN'S** UNDERGROUND LAIR, WHERE SUDDENLY...

WHAT--? OH DEAR!... YOU MUST BE **BAT-MITE**! MY AUNT TOLD ME ALL ABOUT YOU!

AND I'VE HEARD ABOUT YOU, TOO, **BAT-GIRL**! SAY-- HOW COME A CUTE KID LIKE YOU IS CRYING?



AFTER **BAT-GIRL** TELLS HER UNHAPPY TALE...

IF ONLY **ROBIN** WOULD FORGET THE OTHER WOMAN 'SOB! AND FALL IN LOVE WITH ME!

IS THAT ALL? WHY, WITH MY POWERS, IT'LL BE A CINCH... AND BOYBOYBOY WILL I HAVE FUN DOING IT!



ROBIN, BETTER WATCH OUT! WHEN **BAT-MITE** STARTS PLAYING **CUPID**-- ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN!

THAT NIGHT, MEETING AT AN APPOINTED SPOT, **BAT-GIRL** AND THE **BOY WONDER** BEGIN THEIR PATROL, WHEN...

AS **ROBIN** LEADS THE WAY, HE IS UNAWARE THAT AN INVISIBLE FIGURE HAS FOLLOWED...

OH...HELP..
BANDITS,
ATTACKED
ME..

THE NIGHT WATCHMAN
FROM THE **GOthAM**
PLAYGROUND EQUIP-
MENT COMPANY! LET'S
GO, **BAT-GIRL!**



PSST! **BAT-GIRL**, THIS IS WHERE
YOU MAKE **ROBIN'S** EYES POP--
WITH MY HELP, OF COURSE!
--TEE-HEE!



AS THE BANDITS SPLIT UP IN AN EFFORT
TO ESCAPE THE CHARGING CRIME-
FIGHTERS...

BAT-GIRL, TRY TO STALL THE
OTHER TWO, TILL I CAN GIVE YOU
A HAND!



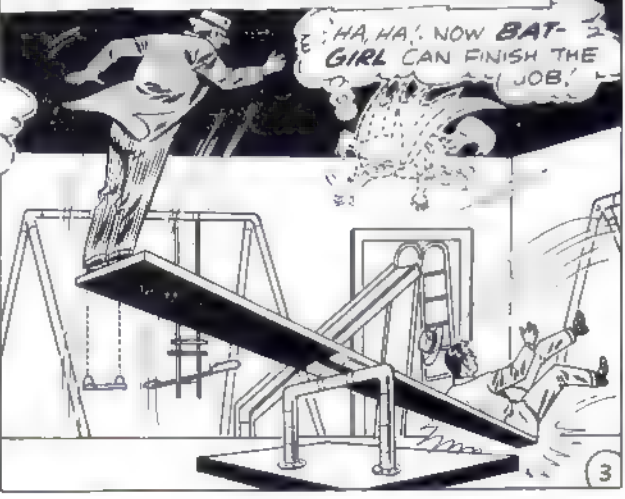
INSTANTLY, **BAT-GIRL** LEAPS TO A
SWING, AND...

GOOD GIRL! NOW I'LL
USE MY POWERS TO SEND
THIS THUG FLYING MORE
THAN NORMAL--AND CONTROL
THE SECOND THUG'S FEET
SO THAT HE WALKS ON THE
SEE-SAW!



THAT DONE--THE INEVITABLE HAPPENS...

HA, HA! NOW **BAT-GIRL**
CAN FINISH THE
JOB!



AND THAT SHE DOES-- BY CATAPULTING FROM THE SWING.

WOW!... A DOUBLE-PLAY!... WHAT A STUNT! BUT I'D BETTER NOT TELL HER THAT--OR SHE'LL GET OVER-CONFIDENT AND TAKE TOO MANY RISKS.



THUS, AWHILE LATER, AFTER TURNING IN THE CRIMINALS...

IT DIDN'T WORK... **ROBIN** DIDN'T EVEN COMPLIMENT ME! HE STILL HASN'T FALLEN FOR ME!

RELAX... THAT WAS ONLY THE **FIRST** STEP IN MY CAMPAIGN!

NOW, LISTEN-- HERE'S WHAT YOU MUST DO TOMORROW NIGHT...



THE FOLLOWING EVENING AS **BAT-GIRL** CARRIES OUT HER INSTRUCTIONS...

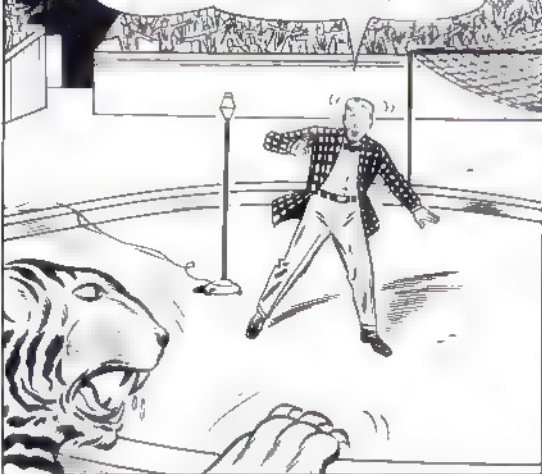
UH, **ROBIN**-- LET'S START PATROLLING IN THAT DIRECTION TONIGHT...



OKAY... IT'LL TAKE US RIGHT NEAR THE SPANGLE BROTHERS OUTDOOR CIRCUS-- SO WE'LL CHECK THERE FIRST!

AT THIS VERY MOMENT, IN THE CIRCUS' CENTER RING, WHERE CHIP DANTON, YOUNG MOVIE IDOL, IS MAKING A GUEST APPEARANCE...

OH, A TIGER'S LOOSE--AND HE'S COMING RIGHT AT ME!



BUT NO ONE IS AWARE OF AN INVISIBLE FIGURE RIDING THE TIGER...

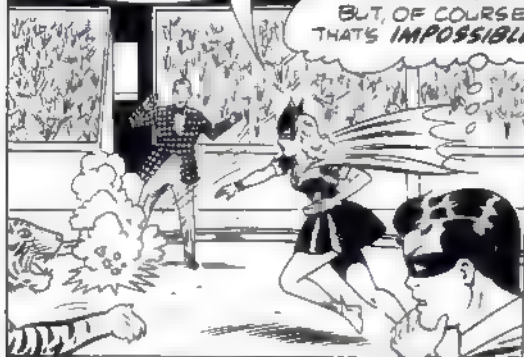
THAT LAD IS IN NO DANGER, SINCE I'M CONTROLLING THIS ANIMAL! I'VE ALREADY SIGNALLED TO **BAT-GIRL**, SO SHE CAN GO INTO ACTION AS WE PLANNED!



ARRIVING PREPARED **BAT-GIRL** IS QUICK TO TACKLE THE "EMERGENCY".

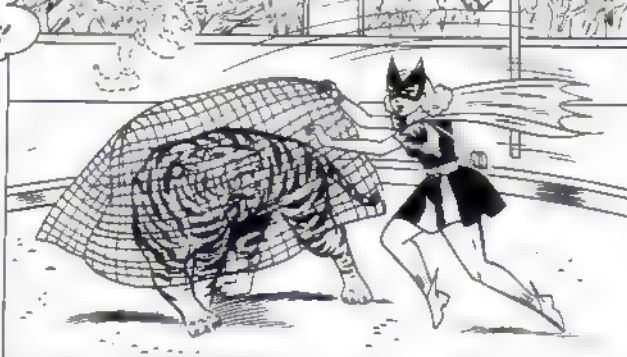
THE **CAT FAMILY** LOVES THE SMELL OF PERFUME-- SO THIS BOTTLE FROM MY **CRIME-COMPACT** SHOULD STALL THE TIGER!

GOLLY! ANYBODY'D THINK THAT **BAT-GIRL** WAS EXPECTING THIS TROUBLE-- BUT, OF COURSE THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!



NOW WHILE THE TIGER IS SNIFFING THE PERFUME--I'LL FLIP THIS TRAPEZE SAFETY-NET OVER HIM!

SO FAR SO GOOD-- NOW CHD DANTON SHOULD REACT AS ANY GRATEFUL BOY--



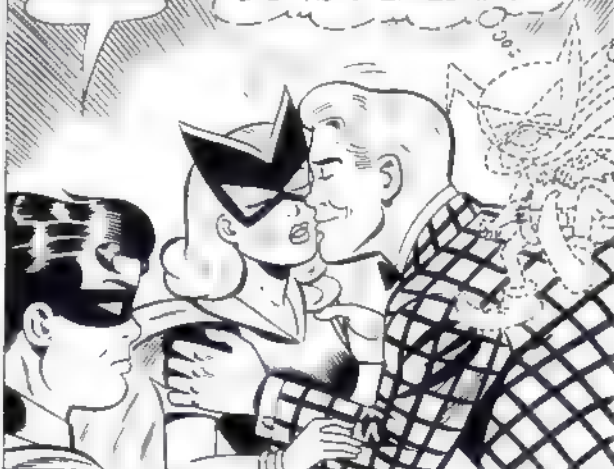
AND, INDEED HE DOES!

BAT-GIRL, YOU SAVED MY LIFE! YOU'RE NOT ONLY WONDERFUL BUT BEAUTIFUL, TOO! AND BEFORE THIS AUDIENCE I WANT TO SHOW YOU MY APPRECIATION..



HMMNNNN

OH, HO.. **ROBIN'S** JEALOUS-- JUST AS I EXPECTED!



LATER..

MY FIRST STEP WAS TO MAKE **ROBIN** ADMIRE YOUR CRIME-FIGHTING SKILL-- MY **SECOND** STEP WAS TO MAKE HIM JEALOUS OF ANOTHER BOY. NOW MY **THIRD** STEP IS TO MAKE HIM WORRY ABOUT YOU!

HOW WILL YOU DO THAT?



BY USING MY POWERS TO MAKE THESE TOYS GROW TO THE PROPER SIZE-- AND THEN ANIMATE THEM. TOMORROW NIGHT AS ALWAYS YOU'LL MEET **ROBIN** AT AN APPOINTED SPOT, AT EXACTLY EIGHT O'CLOCK-- SO HERE'S WHAT I'LL DO...



THE NEXT NIGHT, HOWEVER, **BAT-GIRL** IS SO ANXIOUS, SHE'S AT THE MEETING PLACE EARLIER THAN USUAL...

BAT-MITE'S PLAN IS TO MAKE THE ANIMATED FIGURES LOOK LIKE GANGSTERS WHO WILL ABDUCT ME IN THE "GETAWAY CAR," JUST AS **ROBIN** APPROACHES! HE'LL WORRY ABOUT ME-- FIND A "CLUE"--RESCUE ME-- AND THEN REALIZE HOW MUCH HE CARES FOR ME! I HOPE IT WORKS!



BUT, AS FATE WOULD HAVE IT--**REAL THUGS** SUDDENLY APPEAR, AND...

LOOK!... **BAT-GIRL**--ALONE! THIS IS OUR CHANCE! WE'LL GRAB HER AND TAKE HER ALONG ON OUR JOB...

YEAH--SHE'LL BE OUR "INSURANCE," IN CASE COPS TRY TO STOP US!



THINKING THEY ARE **BAT-MITE'S** CREATIONS, **BAT-GIRL** ALLOWS HERSELF TO BE EASILY OVERCOME...

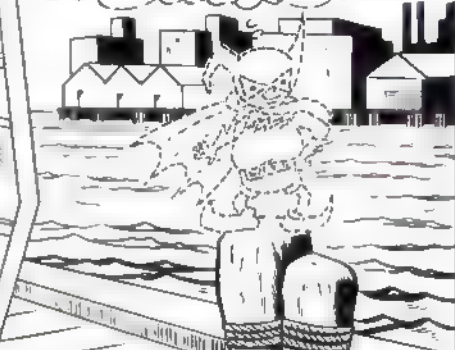
QUICK--SHOVE HER INSIDE!

WAIT!... A **THIRD MAN**! THAT MEANS THESE ARE **REAL THUGS**!



SHORTLY, WHEN THE INVISIBLE **BAT-MITE** ARRIVES...

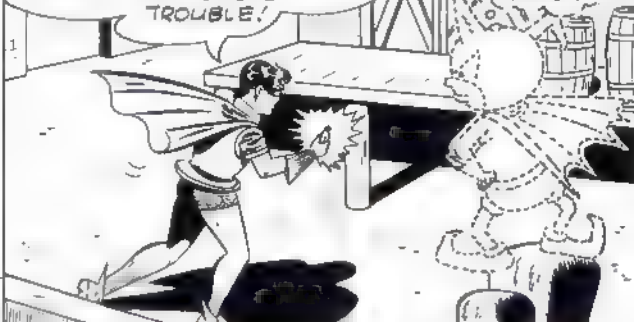
BAT-GIRL SHOULD'VE BEEN HERE BY NOW! ISN'T THAT JUST LIKE A WOMAN--TO BE LATE FOR AN APPOINTMENT!



SOON, **ROBIN** ARRIVES--AND HE, TOO, WAITS IMPATIENTLY, UNTIL HIS KEEN EYES SPY SOMETHING.

WHY--IT'S THE BOTTLE OF LUMINOUS INK THAT **BAT-GIRL** KEEPS IN HER **CRIME-COMPACT**! THAT MEANS SHE WAS HERE--AND LEFT IT AS A CLUE! SHE'S IN TROUBLE!

YIPES! THAT EXPLAINS EVERYTHING! THIS IS AWFUL! POOR **BAT-GIRL**!



BAT-MITE! WHAT...?

ROBIN, I'VE A CONFESSION TO MAKE 'GULP,' AND I HOPE YOU WON'T BE TOO ANGRY...



AFTER EXPLAINING...

D-DO YOU
THINK YOU
CAN
FORGIVE
ME?

RIGHT NOW, I
CAN ONLY THINK
OF THIS BOTTLE!
IT'S NEARLY
EMPTY--WHICH
MEANS THAT IN
THE STRUGGLE,
SHE MANAGED TO
SPLASH THE INK
ON A CAR--SO THE
INK WOULD DRIP OFF
AND LEAVE A
LUMINOUS TRAIL!

WE'D BE ABLE TO
SEE A LUMINOUS
TRAIL EASIER
FROM THE AIR...
I'LL GET THE
WHIRLY-BAT
FROM THE
BATMOBILE!

DON'T
BOTHER
I'LL HAVE
THAT **SEA
GULL**
GIVE
US A
LIFT!

WITH HIS UNCANNY MAGIC, **BAT-
MITE** TURNS THE BIRD INTO A
GIGANTIC CREATURE, SO THAT...

SEE THE TRAIL BETTER
NOW?

YES--WE
CAN'T MISS
FINDING **BAT-
GIRL** NOW!

LATER AS THE BANDITS CRACK THE SAFE OF A COMPANY THAT MAKES
GOLD-PLATED SPORTS TROPHIES...

THIS GOLD SUPPLY...
WHAT A HAUL!

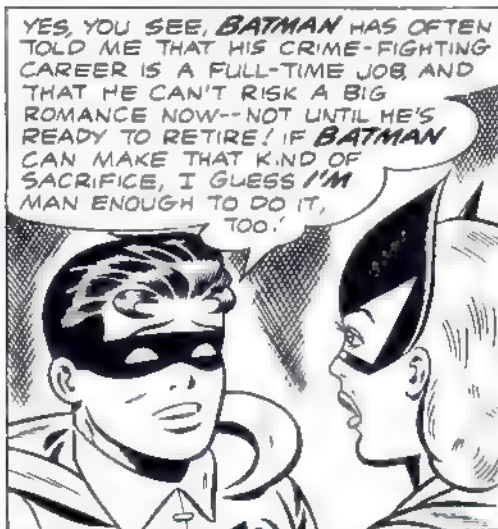
AND I'M GOING TO HAUL
YOU ALL RIGHT TO JAIL!

ROBIN!

HOLD IT, **ROBIN!** YOU'RE GONNA
LET US GET AWAY--OR THIS KID
GETS HURT!

I CAN'T RISK **BAT-GIRL'S** SAFETY...I'VE
NO CHOICE BUT TO LET THEM ESCAPE!







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IN GOTHAM CITY A DEADLY DRAMA IS ABOUT TO TAKE PLACE-- AND UNKNOWINGLY, FOUR APPARENTLY ORDINARY PEOPLE WILL BE THRUST INTO THE LEADING ROLES...

BRUCE WAYNE-- WEALTHY, PROMINENT SOCIALITE...

BRUCE IS A NICE, AMIABLE FELLOW-- BUT IT'S A MYSTERY TO ME WHY HE SEEMS TO HAVE NO GOAL IN LIFE!



DICK GRAYSON-- WAYNE'S YOUNG WARD

DICK GRAYSON IS CUTE-LOOKING-- BUT HE'S SUCH A DRAG. HE ISN'T EVEN GOING TO THE SCHOOL DANCE THIS AFTERNOON!



KATHY KANE-- BLESSED WITH RICHES AND BEAUTY...

I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND WHY A WOMAN AS ATTRACTIVE AS KATHY ISN'T MARRIED YET!



BETTY KANE-- KATHY'S YOUNG NIECE, FROM OUT-OF-TOWN...

I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO SEE AUNT KATHY AGAIN! EXCITING THINGS ALWAYS HAPPEN WHEN I VISIT HER!



FOUR ORDINARY PEOPLE. WITH ORDINARY LIVES! BUT, UNKNOWN TO THE WORLD, EACH OF THEM HAS A **DOUBLE LIFE!**

OKAY **ROBIN**--LET'S TAKE THE **BATHMOBILE** OUT FOR A SPIN AND SEE IF ANY CRIMES NEED BUSTING!



HURRY AUNT KATHY GOSH! I HOPE I GET A CHANCE TO SEE **BATMAN** AGAIN!

BATMAN? ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T REALLY MEAN **ROBIN?**



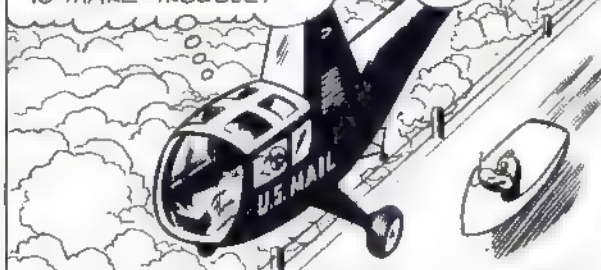
FOUR NOT-SO-ORDINARY PEOPLE--BUT THERE IS YET ANOTHER, WHOM FATE HAS SELECTED TO CATAPULT THEM INTO FANTASTIC ADVENTURE.

NOW, FOR MY MISSION! BUT FIRST, I MUST STORE MY TELEPORTER SOMEWHERE! AH! THAT DESERTED OLD BUILDING WILL DO FINE-- THEN I'LL START MY SEARCH FOR VAUX!



SHORTLY, AS A U.S. MAIL HELICOPTER IS ON ITS WAY TOWARD A MAIL STATION...

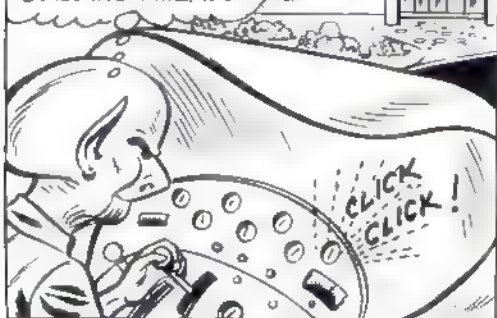
GREAT GUNS! SOME KIND OF ALIEN BEING! I'D BETTER SEE WHERE HE'S HEADING--AND RADIO THE POLICE IN CASE HE INTENDS TO MAKE TROUBLE!



AS THE ALIEN NEARS THE ROAD...

THE VAUX-DETECTOR IS CLICKING--INDICATING A GOOD QUANTITY OF VAUX IN THAT BUILDING AHEAD!

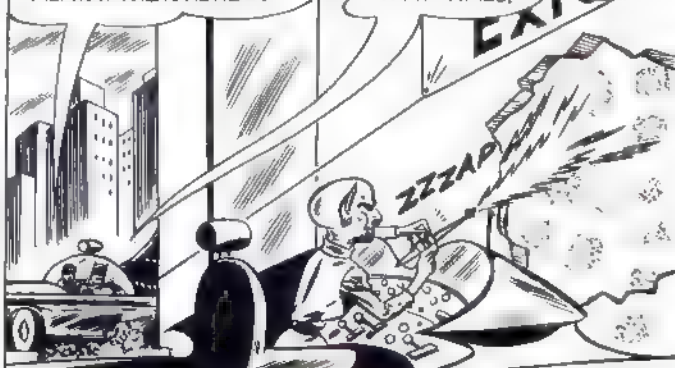
Jewelry Design Exposition



MOMENTS LATER, THE BATMOBILE DRAWS NEAR...

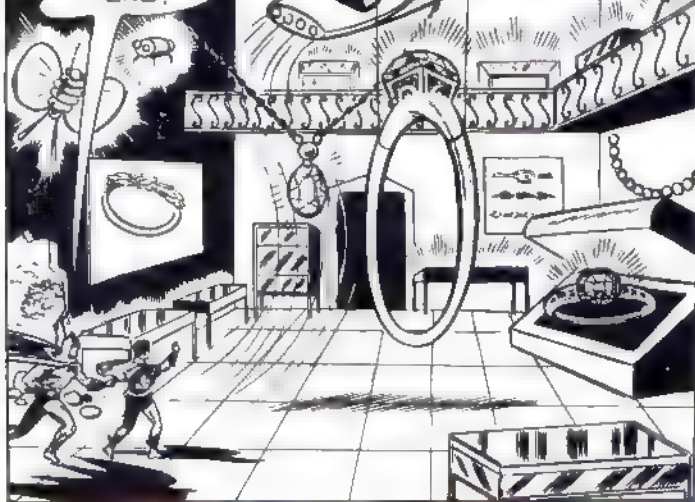
THAT MUST BE HIM-- THE ALIEN THE POLICE ALARM MENTIONED!

HIS STRANGE WEAPON IS DISINTEGRATING THAT WALL!

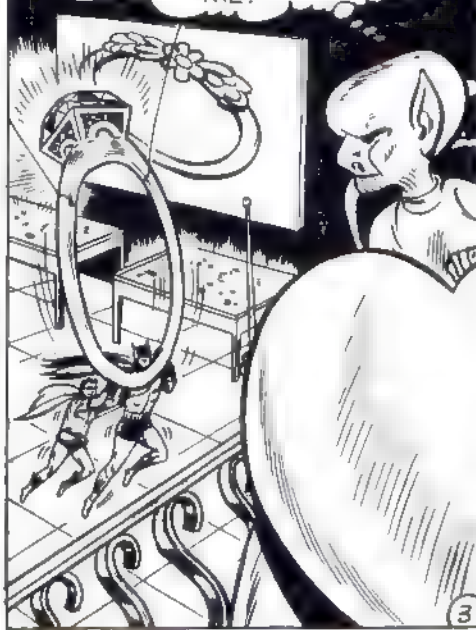


AS THE ALIEN'S SLED ZOOMS INTO THE BUILDING, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS ARE CLOSE BEHIND...

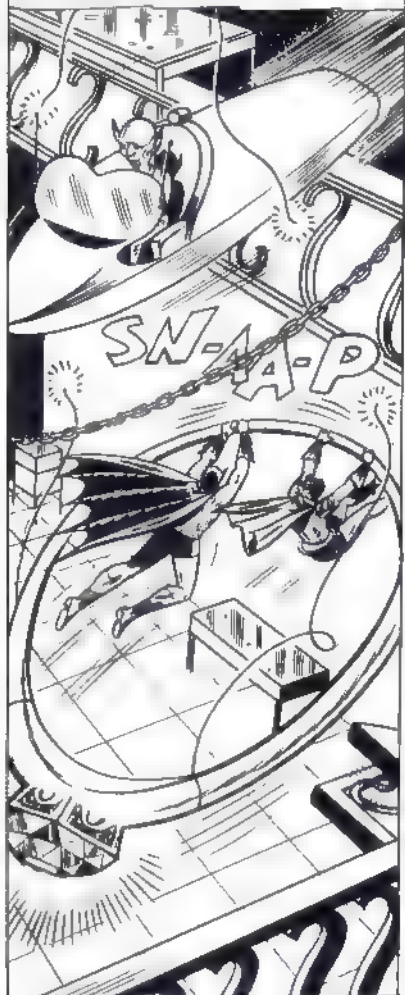
HE'S HEADING FOR THE BALCONY! WE'VE GOT TO GET UP THERE FAST, ROBIN! THAT REPLIC A OF A DIAMOND RING WILL TAKE US THERE!



THOSE TWO-- THEY SEEM INTENT UPON SEIZING ME!

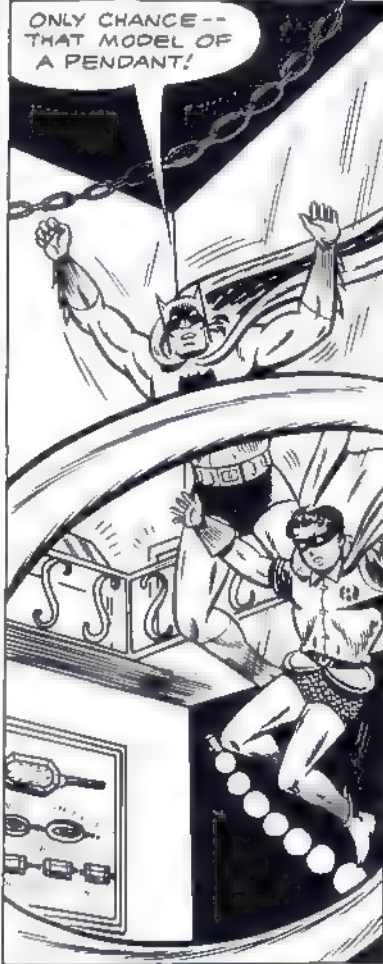


SWIFTLY, **KARN** DRIVES HIS SLED FORWARD AT AMAZING SPEED, SNAPPING THE WIRES...



INSTANTLY, **BATMAN** GAUGES THE DANGER--AND TRAINED REFLEXES ACT WITH THE SWIFTNESS OF THOUGHT!

ONLY CHANCE--
THAT MODEL OF
A PENDANT!

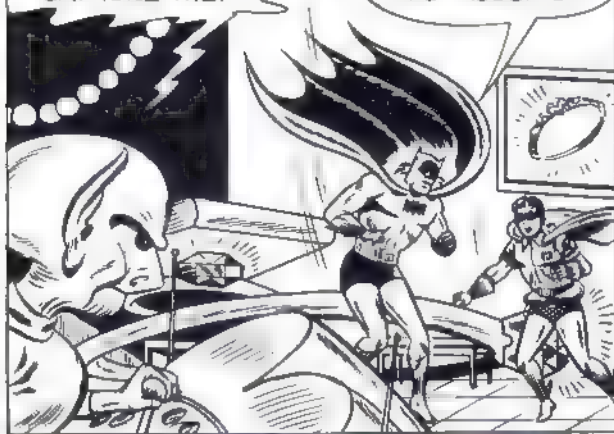


VISELIKE, **BATMAN'S** HANDS GRIP THEIR TARGET, AND...



I AM GLAD YOU ESCAPED INJURY-- BUT I CANNOT RISK LETTING YOU CAPTURE ME!

THE ALIEN IS "SPEAKING" TO US BY PROJECTING HIS THOUGHTS!



I MUST STOP YOU FROM INTERFERING WITH MY MISSION!

THE WEAPON THAT DISINTEGRATED THE WALL--FIRING AT US 'UHH--UHH!'



IS THIS TO BE THE END OF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**?

4



MINUTES PASS AND THEN

HUH? WE WERE
ALIVE!

YEP! I SAW
IT ALL! HIS
WEAPON ONLY
KNOCKED YOU
UNCONSCIOUS!



THEN HE *DIDN'T* TRY TO
DISINTEGRATE US! HE CAN
VARY THE POWER OF HIS
WEAPON! THE ALIEN IS
A CROOK-- BUT HE'S
NO KILLER!

YEAH, BUT HE'S
NOT MUCH OF A
CROOK--BECAUSE
HE DIDN'T TOUCH
ANY DIAMONDS..



... ALL HE GRABBED
WAS A FEW
BROOCHES AND
RINGS MADE OF
SILVER!

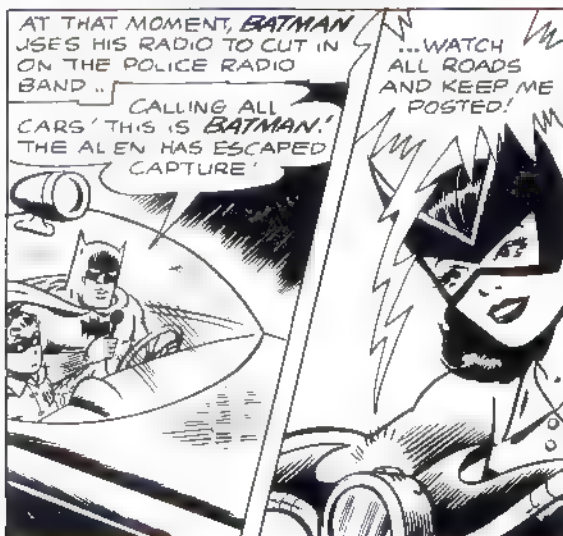
HMM! HE'S
AN ALIEN
FROM AN
ALIEN WORLD!
IT IS POSSIBLE
THAT ON HIS
WORLD, SILVER IS
RARE--SO RARE
THAT IT'S MORE
PRECIOUS THAN
GEMS!



MEANWHILE, AS THE **BAT-CYCLE** ROARS ALONG THE
HIGHWAY:

I'LL BET THE **BATMOBILE**
PICKED UP THE POLICE ALARM
ABOUT THE ALIEN, AS WE DID!
MAYBE WE CAN GIVE **BATMAN**
AND **ROBIN** A HAND!

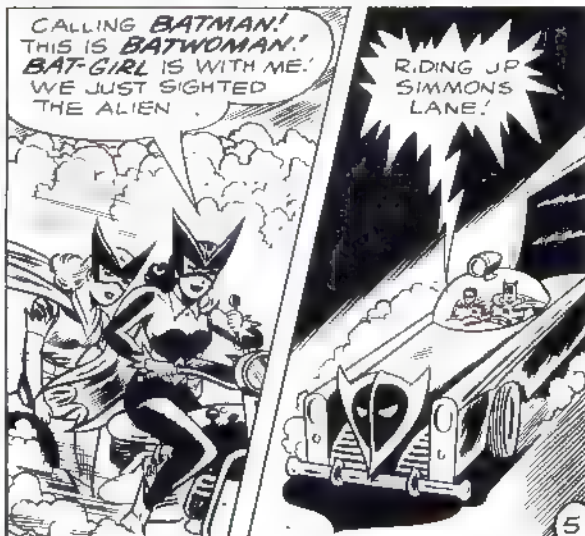
BATWOMAN--
LOOK! THAT
MUST BE...
THE ALIEN!



AT THAT MOMENT, **BATMAN**
USES HIS RADIO TO CUT IN
ON THE POLICE RADIO
BAND ..

CALLING ALL
CARS! THIS IS **BATMAN!**
THE ALIEN HAS ESCAPED
CAPTURE!

...WATCH
ALL ROADS
AND KEEP ME
POSTED!



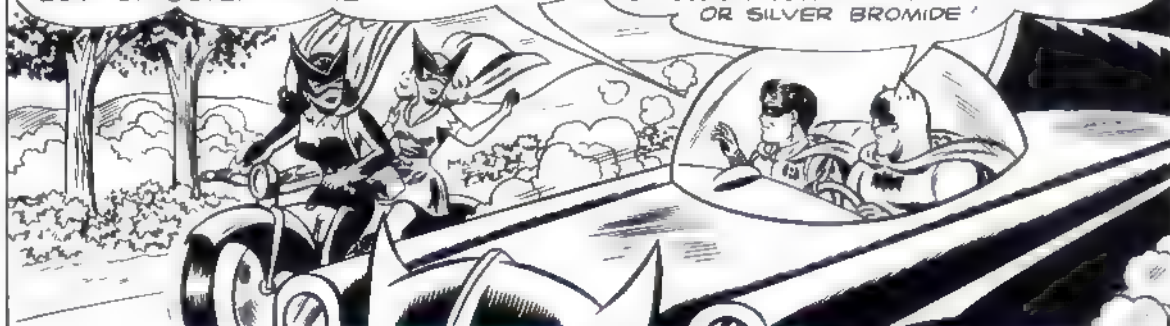
CALLING **BATMAN!**
THIS IS **BATWOMAN!**
BAT-GIRL IS WITH ME!
WE JUST SIGHTED
THE ALIEN.

RIDING JP
SIMMONS
LANE!

SHORTLY, AFTER THE TWO TEAMS OF CRIME-FIGHTERS JOIN FORCES ..

SIMMONS LANE LEADS TO THE BIG **ACE FILM COMPANY** PLANT! THEY USE A LOT OF SILVER THERE!

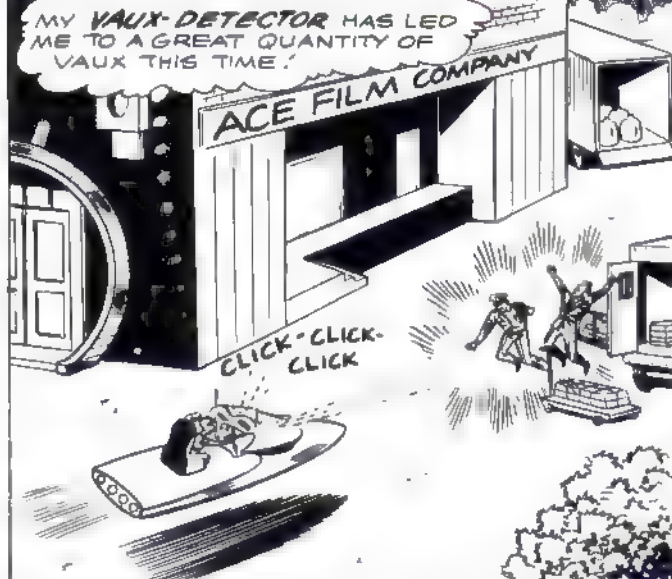
RIGHT! THAT COMPANY MANUFACTURES TONS OF PHOTOGRAPHIC FILM--AND FILM EMULSION CONTAINS SILVER CHLORIDE OR SILVER BROMIDE!



AS GUARDS ARE ABOUT TO WHEEL INGOTS OF SILVER INTO THE FILM COMPANY'S NOVEL BUILDING..

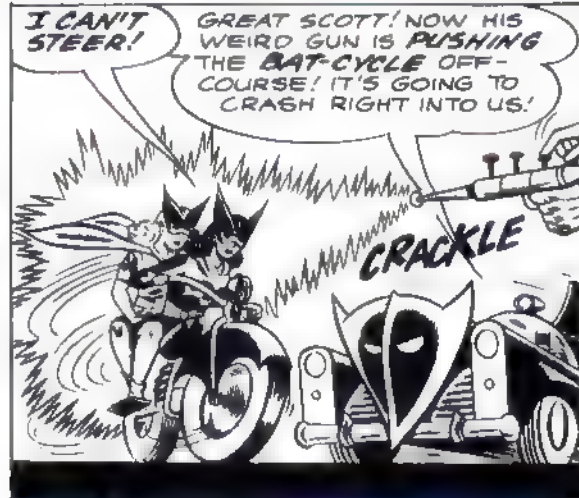
THE ONES WHO CALLED EACH OTHER **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**! AND WITH THEM ARE TWO MASKED FEMALES! I MUST ACT QUICKLY!

MY **Vaux-Detector** HAS LED ME TO A GREAT QUANTITY OF **Vaux** THIS TIME!



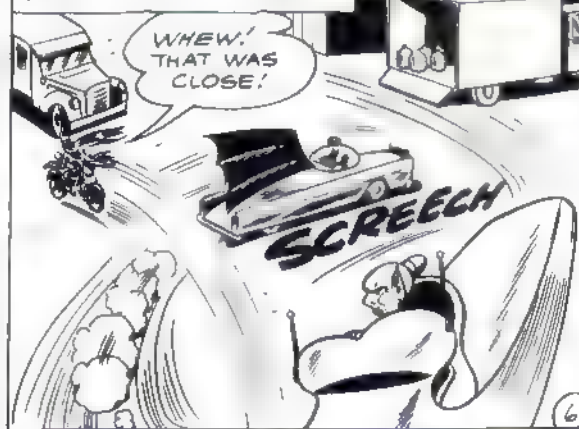
I CAN'T STEER!

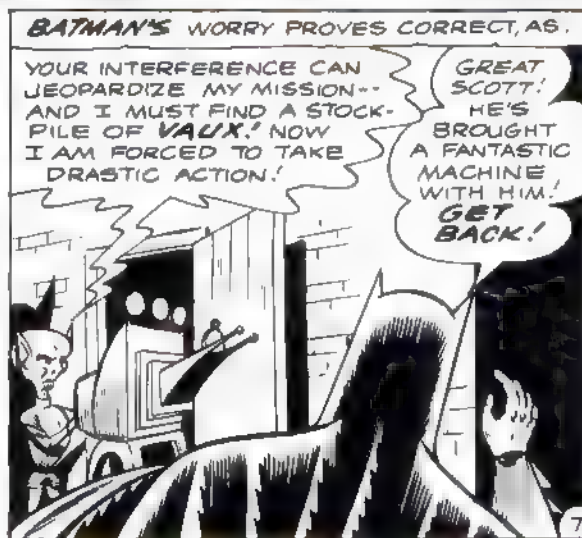
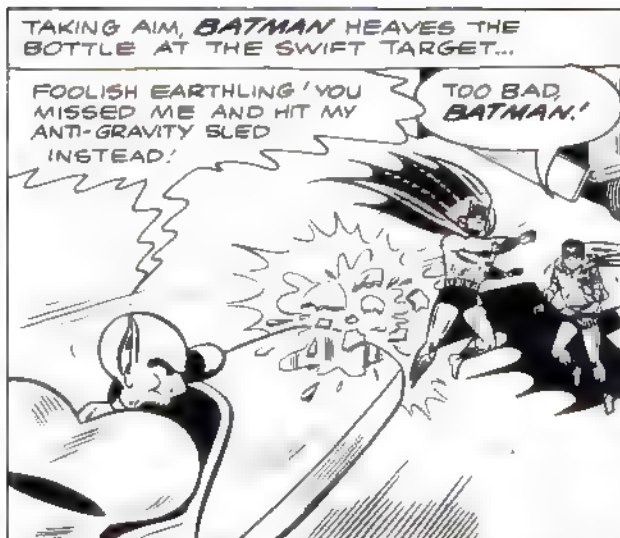
GREAT SCOTT! NOW HIS WEIRD GUN IS PUSHING THE **BAT-CYCLE** OFF-COURSE! IT'S GOING TO CRASH RIGHT INTO US!



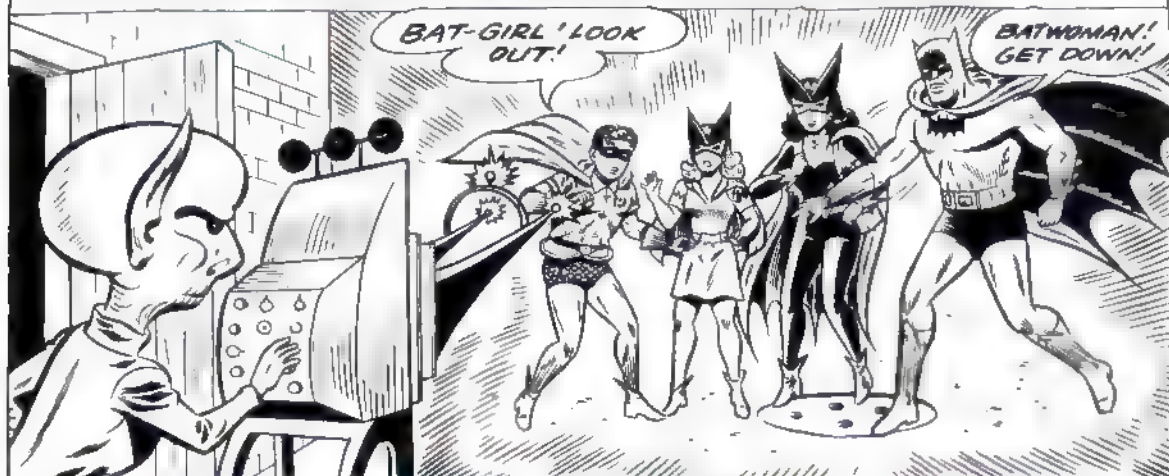
WITH LIGHTNING-LIKE REFLEXES, **BATMAN** STEPS ON THE GAS, AND THEN YANKS HARD AT THE WHEEL...

WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE!





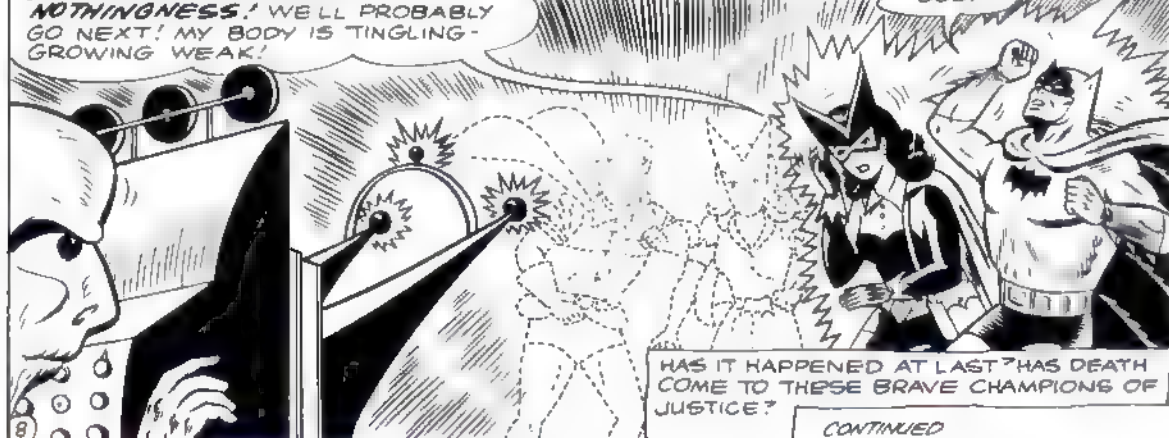
FEARING FOR **BATWOMAN** AND **BAT-GIRL**, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** LEAP FORWARD, HOPING TO SHIELD THEM FROM THE MACHINE'S SWEEPING RADIANCE!



SIMULTANEOUSLY, TWO AMAZING EVENTS OCCUR!

BAT-GIRL AND ROBIN--
DISINTEGRATING INTO
NOTHINGNESS! WE'LL PROBABLY
GO NEXT! MY BODY IS TINGLING--
GROWING WEAK!

ME, TOO! I FEEL AS IF EVERY
ATOM IN ME IS STRETCHING--
BREAKING FREE OF MY
BODY!





BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

THAT'S IT, BATWOMAN--
CONCENTRATE! WE MUST
FOCUS OUR ENERGY-FORCE
AT THAT WINGED MONSTER,
IN ORDER TO SAVE THE
LIVES OF THE BIRD-
PEOPLE!

Chapter 2

AS BAT-GIRL AND ROBIN FADE INTO NOTHINGNESS, THEIR FATE REMAINS UNKNOWN--
BUT WHAT OF BATMAN AND BATWOMAN? THEY HAVE BECOME VICTIMS OF A
FREAK ACCIDENT - FOR THEY HAVE HURTLED INTO SPACE, YET REMAIN
ON EARTH AT THE SAME TIME! INCREDIBLE, BUT TRUE-- AS YOU WILL SEE
WHEN BATMAN AND BATWOMAN ARE MENACED BY...

DEATH FROM BEYOND

BEFORE THEIR HORRIFIED EYES, **BATMAN** AND **BATWOMAN** SEE **ROBIN** AND **BAT-GIRL** FADE INTO NOTHINGNESS. THEN.

TH--THEY'VE DISAPPEARED--BUT **WE'RE** STILL HERE! STRANGE--THE ELECTRIC AURA THAT WAS ABOUT US, IS GONE--AND NOW THAT IT HAS, I'M SO... SO TIRED

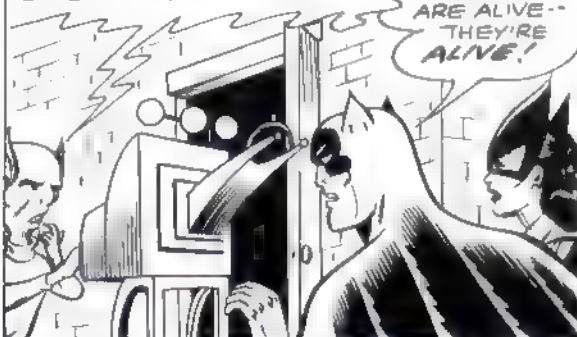
I--I FEEL AS IF ALL THE ENERGY WAS DRAINED FROM ME.



AT THAT MOMENT, THE MYSTIFIED ALIEN TURNS OFF HIS MACHINE

VERY ODD! MY **TELEPORTER** SHOULD HAVE TRANSMITTED YOU TWO TO MY DIMENSION, AS IT DID THE BOY AND THE GIRL -- YET IT DIDN'T!

BATWOMAN! DID YOU HEAR? **ROBIN** AND **BAT-GIRL** ARE ALIVE--THEY'RE ALIVE!



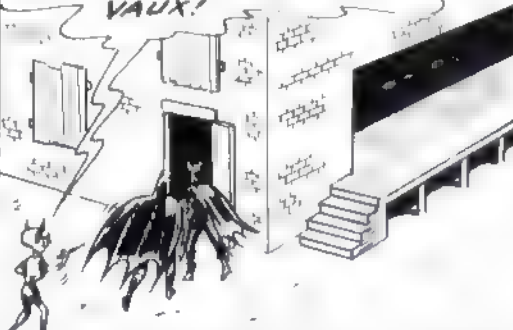
TRYING AGAIN, **KARN** TURNS ON THE POWER OF HIS **DIMENSION-TELEPORTER**, BUT

FOR SOME REASON, IT FAILS TO TRANSMIT YOU TWO! BUT I CAN'T WASTE TIME PUZZLING IT OUT NOW! I HAVE A MISSION TO COMPLETE



IN THEIR STRANGELY WEAKENED CONDITION, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS ARE UNABLE TO RESIST **KARN**...

JUST TO MAKE CERTAIN YOU CANNOT ESCAPE AND INTERFERE AGAIN I'LL LOCK YOU IN A ROOM--WHILE I RAID YOUR WORLD FOR MORE **VAUX!**



SHORTLY.

I HAVE THE STRANGEST SENSATION! I FEEL **INCOMPLETE**--AS IF PART OF ME IS MISSING!



SOMEHOW I--I SENSE I'VE SPLIT INTO TWO BEINGS!

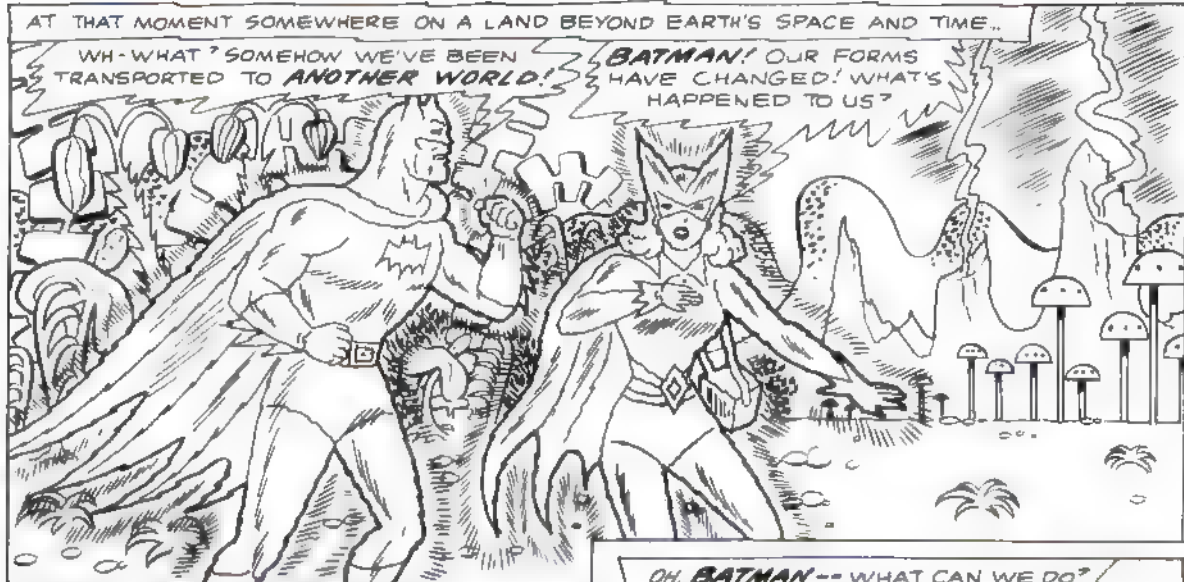
YES! AND SOMEHOW I KNOW THAT OUR **OTHER SELVES** ARE ELSEWHERE--ON SOME **STRANGE WORLD!**



AT THAT MOMENT SOMEWHERE ON A LAND BEYOND EARTH'S SPACE AND TIME..

WH-WHAT? SOMEHOW WE'VE BEEN
TRANSPORTED TO **ANOTHER WORLD!**

BATMAN! OUR FORMS
HAVE CHANGED! WHAT'S
HAPPENED TO US?



GREAT SCOTT! WE'VE
BECOME **PURE ENERGY!**
IN SOME FREAKISH WAY, THE
ALIEN'S MACHINE FREED THE
ENERGY-FORCE FROM OUR
BODIES--AND TRANSMITTED
US HERE! EACH OF US HAS
SPLIT INTO **TWO BEINGS!**

TH-THEN THAT
MEANS OUR
BODIES--OUR
FLESH-AND-
BLOOD BODIES,
ARE BACK ON
EARTH!



OH, **BATMAN**-- WHAT CAN WE DO?
WE'RE STRANDED ON A STRANGE
WORLD! HOW CAN WE EVER GET
BACK TO MERGE WITH OUR
BODIES FAR AWAY ON EARTH?

I--
I
DON'T
KNOW!



AND ON EARTH ..

WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF
HERE-- WARN THE
AUTHORITIES ..

UH-HH! NO USE!
CAN'T BUDGE
THE DOOR! ALL
MY STRENGTH
IS GONE ..



WAIT! THE ALIEN DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT
MY **UTILITY-BELT!** THIS VIAL OF
ACID WILL DISSOLVE
THE LOCK AND
FREE US!



MEANWHILE, HOPING TO FIND HELP, THE ENERGY FORMS OF **BATMAN** AND **BATWOMAN** MOVE TOWARD THE ALIEN CITY, BUT...

BATMAN, THE BUILDINGS ARE SHATTERING!

WE'RE THE CAUSE! OUR ENERGY-FORMS ARE EMITTING POWERFUL PULSES OF FORCE THAT DESTROY ANYTHING WITHIN RANGE!

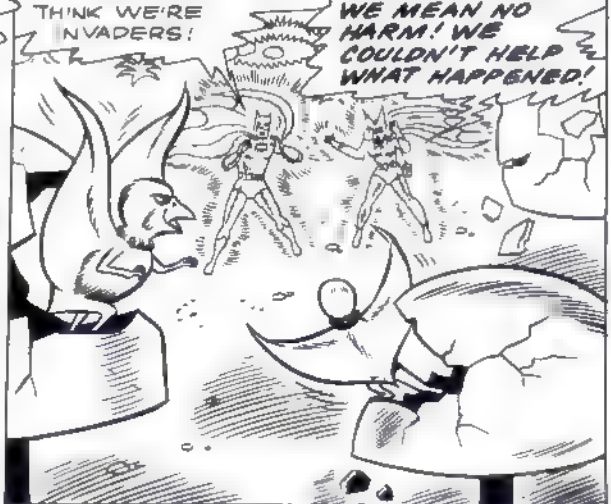


HORRIFIED BY THE CHAOS THEY HAVE UNWITTINGLY CAUSED, THE TWO **ENERGY-BEINGS** HASTILY RETREAT...

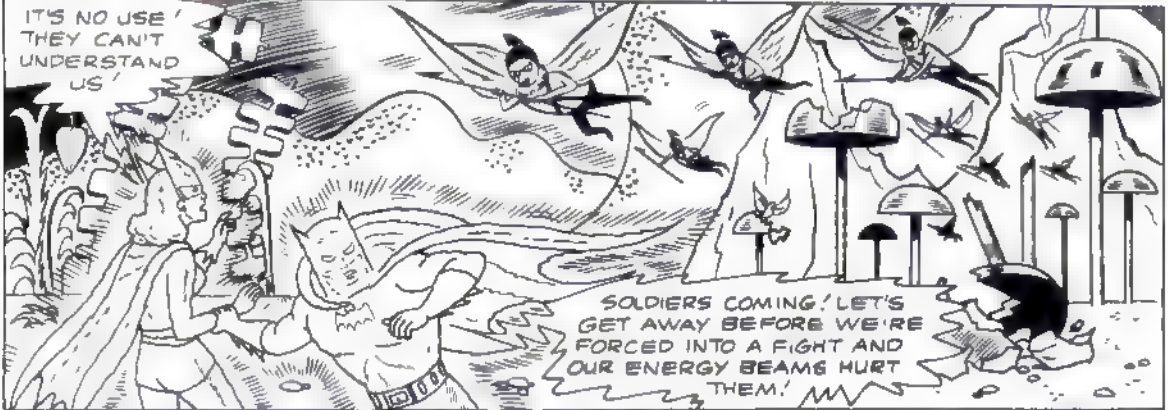
WE'VE GOT

THE WINGED PEOPLE OF THIS WORLD! THEY THINK WE'RE INVADERS!

TO MAKE THEM UNDERSTAND! PLEASE, WE MEAN NO HARM! WE COULDN'T HELP WHAT HAPPENED!



IT'S NO USE! THEY CAN'T UNDERSTAND US!



SOLDIERS COMING! LET'S GET AWAY BEFORE WE'RE FORCED INTO A FIGHT AND OUR ENERGY BEAMS HURT THEM!

SEEKING REFUGE, **BATMAN** AND **BATWOMAN** PLUNGE INTO THE DEPTHS OF THE NEARBY WOODS, BUT...



GOOD HEAVENS! OUR PULSES OF FORCE ARE SMASHING DOWN EVERYTHING AROUND US!

NO USE! WE CAN'T HIDE! INSTEAD, WE'VE ACTUALLY LEFT A TRAIL FOR THEM TO SIGHT FROM ABOVE!



WARILY, THE WINGED PEOPLE KEEP BEYOND RANGE OF THE FORCE-PULSES--AND LAUNCH AN AERIAL ATTACK!

WE'RE SAFE ENOUGH! OUR AURAS OF FORCE ARE SHATTERING THEIR SPEARS!

OH, WHY CAN'T THEY UNDERSTAND THAT ALL WE WANT TO DO IS FIND A WAY BACK TO OUR OWN BODIES!



MEANWHILE, IN THE OTHER WORLD--A MONSTROUS SHAPE DARKENS THE SKY!



GREAT SCOTT! A COLOSSAL BEAST--AND IT'S GOING FOR THE BIRD-PEOPLE!

AND ON EARTH...

THE **TELEPORTER!** PERHAPS ITS POWER CAN PULL OUR ENERGY-SELVES BACK INTO OUR BODIES!

YOU'RE FORGETTING--WHEN THE ALIEN TURNED ITS POWER ON US A SECOND TIME, NOTHING HAPPENED! FIRST, WE MUST FIGURE OUT WHY IT WORKED ONLY ON **ROBIN** AND **BAT-GIRL**--AND NOT ON US!



THEIR SPEARS ONLY BOUNCE OFF THAT BEAST'S HIDE! **BATMAN**, SOMEHOW WE'VE GOT TO HELP THOSE BRAVE BEINGS!

MAYBE IF WE CONCENTRATE OUR THOUGHTS, WE CAN CONTROL OUR ENERGIES--AND **FOCUS** AT THAT BEAST!



THE STRATEGY WORKS--AND TWO LENGTHENING BEAMS OF FORCE STRIKE THEIR TARGET!



RAAAAAA!



THE BEAST IS HURT--BUT IT'S STILL ALIVE--AND COMING FOR US!

QUICK--
GRAB MY HAND! MAYBE WE CAN DESTROY IT--TOGETHER!

AS THEY GRASP HANDS AND CONCENTRATE, THEIR ENERGIES FLOW TOGETHER LIKE AN ELECTRICAL CURRENT--AND **ONE THUNDERBOLT OF FORCE** STABS AT THE WINGED COLOSSUS!



OUR COMBINED ENERGIES DID IT!

YES--AND NOW THE BIRD-PEOPLE ARE SMILING AT US! NOW THEY KNOW WE'RE THEIR FRIENDS!

MEANWHILE ON EARTH--
BATMAN PRODS HIS TRAINED MIND...

NOW I REMEMBER! WE WERE STANDING ON A **MANHOLE COVER**--BUT THE YOUNGSTERS WEREN'T IT WAS THE **STEEL** MANHOLE COVER THAT CAUSED THE FREAK REACTION!



THEN, TO DRAW THE ENERGY--FORCES BACK INTO OUR BODIES, WE HAVE TO REPEAT WHAT HAPPENED!

EXACTLY--BUT WE'LL HAVE TO TURN THE **TELEPORTER'S** POWER TO **REVERSE**!

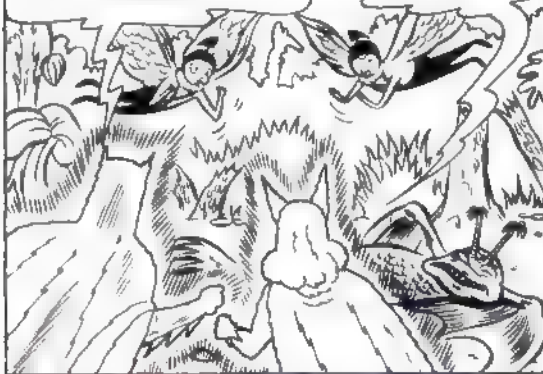
COME ON, BETWEEN US WE HAVE JUST ENOUGH STRENGTH LEFT TO CARRY THIS MACHINE TO THAT MANHOLE COVER!



AT THAT MOMENT, ON THE ALIEN WORLD..

ODD! THE BIRD-PEOPLE ARE BECKONING! THEY SEEM TO BE IMPLORING US TO COME AWAY FROM THE BEAST'S BODY!

BUT WHY? THE BEAST CAN'T HARM US NOW THAT IT'S DYING!



APPARENTLY, AS THIS PECULIAR BEAST DIES, ITS BODY ABSORBS ALL ENERGY NEAR IT!

BATMAN!

AS OUR ENERGY DWINDLES, OUR FORMS ARE GROWING PALE! IN A SHORT WHILE, THERE'LL BE NOTHING LEFT OF US!



OUR OTHER SELVES ARE OUR LIFE-FORCES! THEY'RE DYING-- AND WHEN THEY ARE DEAD, WE WILL BE DEAD, TOO!

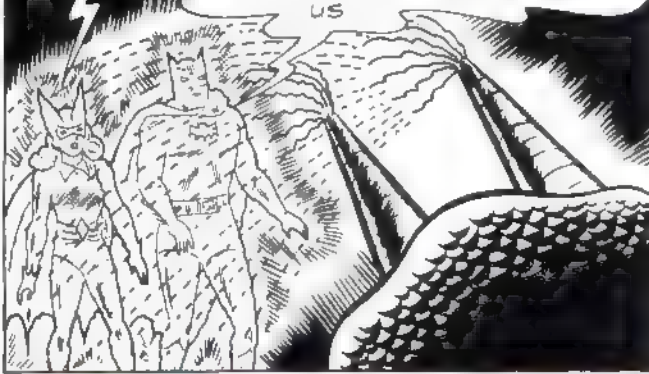
NOW WE CAN NEVER UNITE WITH OUR OTHER SELVES! OH, **BATMAN**--EVERYTHING'S OVER FOR US!



THEN, SOMETHING INCREDIBLE HAPPENS..

BATMAN-- I--I CAN'T MOVE!

NEITHER CAN I! GREAT SCOTT! OUR ENERGY FORMS ARE IMMOBILIZED BY THAT BEAST! NOW I UNDERSTAND WHY THE BIRD-PEOPLE TRIED TO WARN US



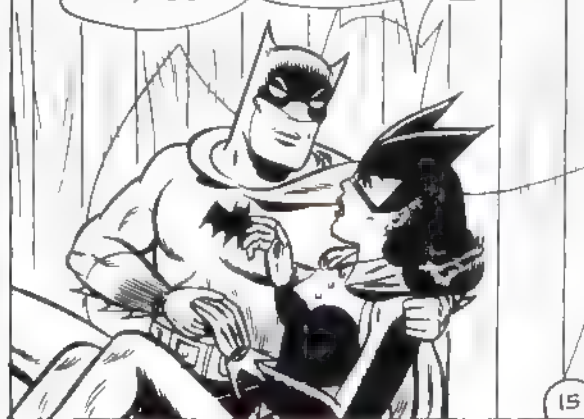
AND ON EARTH..

NOW WE CAN'T LIFT THE MACHINE! WE'RE EVEN WEAKER THAN BEFORE!

SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO OUR OTHER SELVES! THEIR ENERGIES ARE EBBING AWAY--AND AS THEY GET WEAKER, SO DO WE!



HOLD ME CLOSE! IF I MUST DIE, I WANT IT TO BE IN YOUR ARMS. OH, **BATMAN**, YOU KNOW I LOVE YOU--DYING WOULDN'T BE SO BAD, IF I KNEW YOU LOVED ME, TOO..



15



CHAPTER 3

THE TWIN BEINGS THAT ARE **BATMAN** AND **BATWOMAN** ARE NEAR DEATH-- BUT WHAT OF **BAT-GIRL** AND **ROBIN**? WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO THEM? THEY ARE IN YET **ANOTHER** WORLD-- MENACED BY WOULD-BE CONQUERORS! AND ONLY AFTER A FANTASTIC ADVENTURE CAN THE TWO BRAVE YOUNGSTERS UNITE WITH **BATMAN** AND **BATWOMAN** TO DEFEAT THE DANGER FROM THE...

DIMENSION OF DOOM

BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

THERE THEY ARE! WE'VE GOT THEM TRAPPED!

WE'VE GOT JUST ONE CHANCE, **BAT-GIRL**! YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO!



MEANWHILE--WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO **BAT-GIRL** AND **ROBIN**?

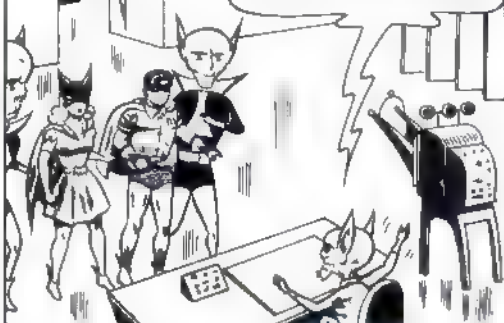
TWO STRANGE BEINGS--MATERIALIZING! OBVIOUSLY KARN TELEPORTED THEM TO OUR DIMENSION--TO KEEP THEM FROM INTERFERING WITH HIS SEARCH FOR **VAUX**!

ROBIN--
DID YOU HEAR?
THIS IS THE **ALIEN'S** DIMENSION!



WHO ARE YOU? WE KNOW KARN IS AFTER **VAUX**--OR **SILVER**, AS WE CALL IT-- BUT WHY?

I AM **ZEBO**-- A SCIENTIST! IT IS I WHO INVENTED THE DIMENSIONAL-TELEPORTER AND THE HAND-WEAPON YOU UNDOUBTEDLY SAW KARN USE!



VAUX IS VERY RARE IN OUR WORLD--BUT ONLY **VAUX** CAN POWER THE HAND-WEAPON I INVENTED! LUCKILY I HAD TO SEND HIM INTO YOUR DIMENSION TO SEARCH FOR MORE TO BE ABLE TO POWER **THIS**!

A REPLICA OF KARN'S WEAPON-- BUT IT'S AS BIG AS A CANNON!



MY SECRET WEAPON! WAR HAS BEEN OUTLAWED IN OUR WORLD FOR CENTURIES, SO THE PRESIDENT'S ARMY HAS ONLY TOKEN WEAPONS! WHEN KARN BRINGS **VAUX** BACK TO POWER MY **DISINTEGRATOR-CANNON**, I'LL DESTROY THE PRESIDENT'S MEAGER ARMY-- AND MAKE MYSELF **DICTATOR!**



UHH WOULD ANYONE MIND IF I PUT ON A LITTLE LIPSTICK?

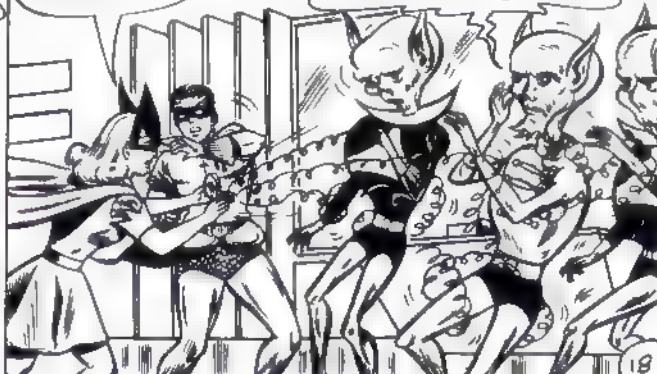
'HA, HA,' A FEMALE IS THE SAME IN ANY WORLD! WHEN FACING A PROBLEM, SHE ALWAYS RESORTS TO POWDERING HER NOSE OR PUTTING ON FRESH LIPSTICK!



BUT THE "LIPSTICK" FROM **BAT-GIRL'S CRIME-COMPACT** IS GIMMICKED--AND AS SHE PRESSES A SECRET TRIGGER...

ROBIN!
DUCK!

WHAT..? IT'S SHOOTING OUT TENDRILS OF WIRE-- ENTANGLING US!





TO THE WINDOW-- QUICK! IT'S ONLY A SHORT DROP TO THE GROUND BELOW!



GO AFTER THEM! IF THEY ESCAPE THEY'LL GET TO THE CITY AND ALERT THE PRESIDENT!

THE CITY! THAT MUST BE IT BEYOND THE FOREST! WE'LL HAVE TO TRY TO ELUDE ZEBU'S MEN IN THAT FOREST!



SOON, IN A FOREST OF BIZARRE, GIGANTIC PLANTS.

WELL? DO YOU SEE ZEBU'S MEN?

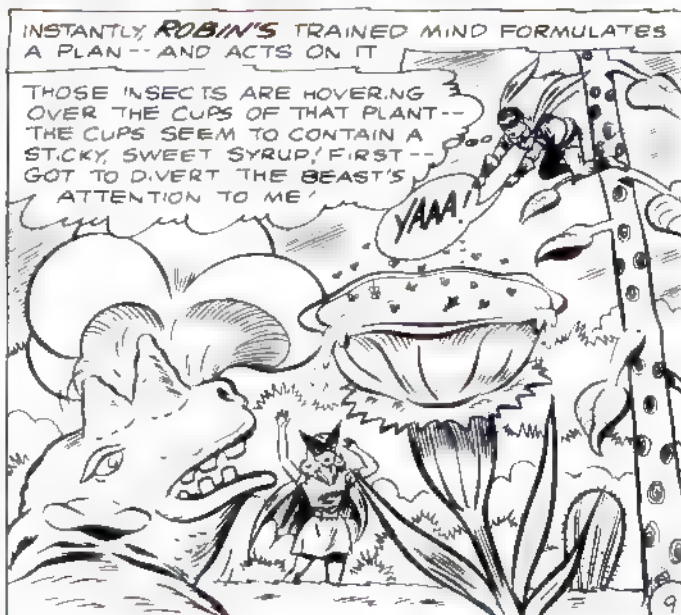
YES! THEY'RE COMING ON STRANGE-LOOKING STEEDS! I GUESS THAT'S THE ONLY WAY THEY CAN PURSUE US IN THIS FOREST.



SUDDENLY

EEEE!

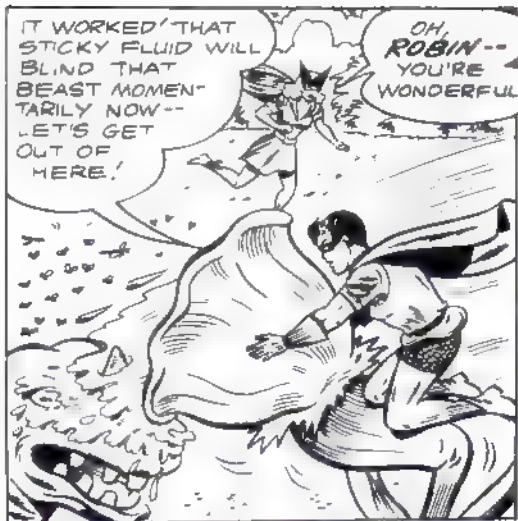
AN ALIEN BEAST - STALKING BAT-GIRL!



INSTANTLY, **ROBIN'S** TRAINED MIND FORMULATES A PLAN-- AND ACTS ON IT

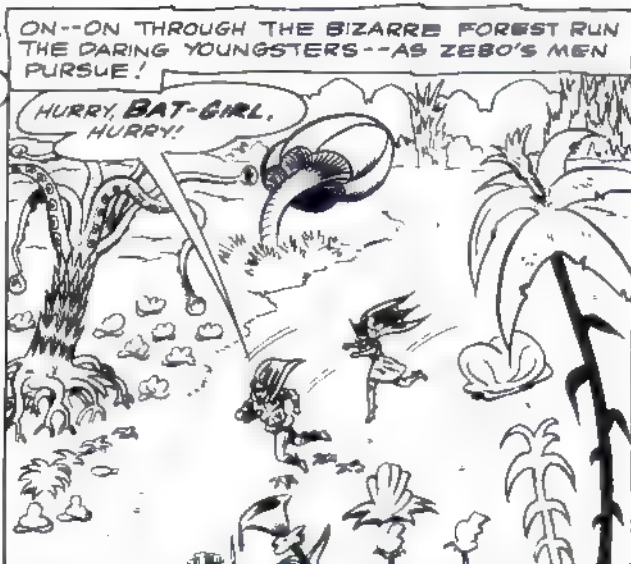
THOSE INSECTS ARE HOVERING OVER THE CUPS OF THAT PLANT-- THE CUPS SEEM TO CONTAIN A STICKY, SWEET SYRUP! FIRST-- GOT TO DIVERT THE BEAST'S ATTENTION TO ME!

YAAA!



IT WORKED! THAT STICKY FLUID WILL BLIND THAT BEAST WOMEN-TARILY NOW-- LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

OH, **ROBIN**-- YOU'RE WONDERFUL!

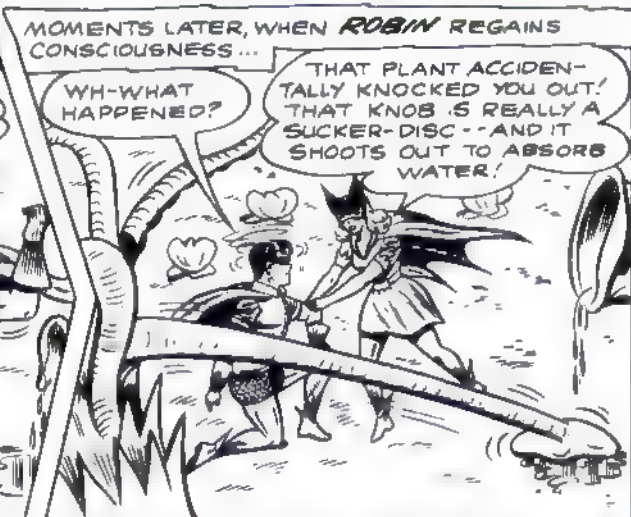


HURRY, **BAT-GIRL**. HURRY!



WITHOUT WARNING...

UHHHH!



MOMENTS LATER, WHEN **ROBIN** REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS...

WH-WHAT HAPPENED?

THAT PLANT ACCIDENTALLY KNOCKED YOU OUT! THAT KNOB IS REALLY A SUCKER-DISC--AND IT SHOOTS OUT TO ABSORB WATER!



OH, I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE ALL RIGHT! I WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU

GOSH! YOU WERE? GEE, **BAT-GIRL**... I--I...



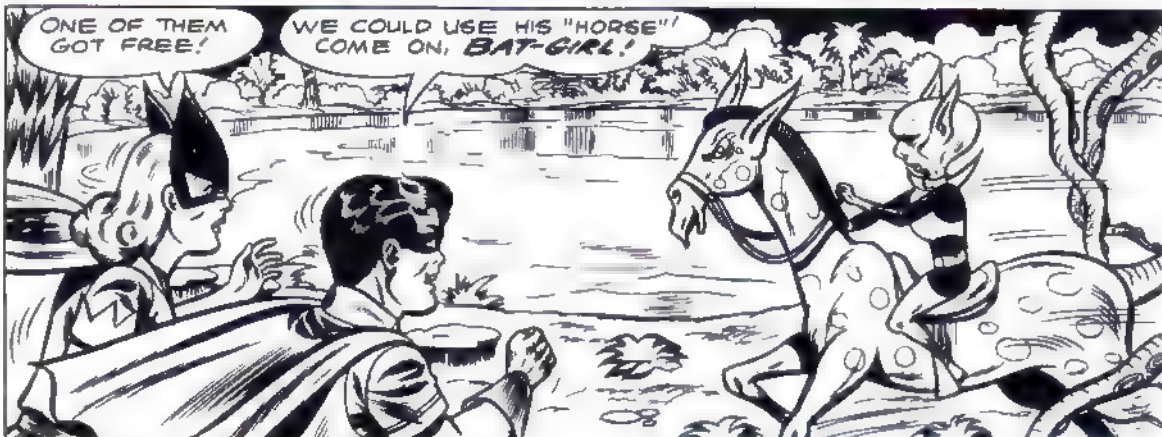
MMMMMMM!



INSTANTLY THE YOUNGSTERS HURL
WATER-FILLED PLANT CUPS
FORWARD...



...AND THE GREEDY SUCKER-DISCS ON BOTH
SIDES OF THE GROVE, SHOOT OUT TOWARD
THE SPLASHES OF WATER.



SHORTLY AFTER ...

WHAT...? GOVERNMENT TROOPS!
THOSE YOUNGSTERS DID GET
TO THE PRESIDENT,
AFTER ALL!



ONLY ONE THING I CAN DO NOW--
TELEPORT MYSELF TO JOIN
KARN, AND HIDE IN EARTH'S
DIMENSION!



ZEBO--FADING AWAY! HE'S
TELEPORTING HIMSELF TO
EARTH!



MEANWHILE, ON EARTH, **BATMAN** HAS
THOUGHT OF A PLAN, AND ACTS ON IT!

AT LEAST OUR WEIGHT
AND REMAINING
STRENGTH... IS ENOUGH
TO TIP OVER THIS
MACHINE A BIT...

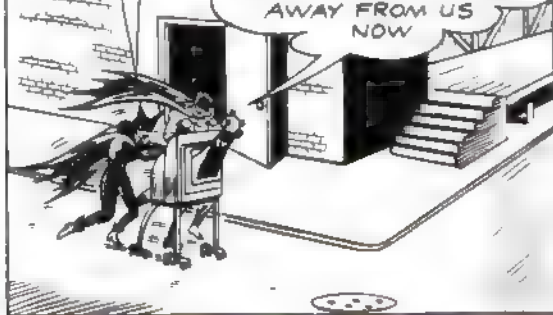
LUCKILY THERE
WERE A FEW
OLD SKATES
LEFT BEHIND
IN THIS DEFUNCT
ROLLER SKATE
FACTORY! KEEP THE
TELEPORTER BALANCED.
WHILE I... SLIP TWO SKATES
UNDER THE CORNERS
ON THIS SIDE



UPON REPEATING THE PROCESS, AND TYING
THE SKATES TO THE CORNERS, **BATMAN**
AND **BATWOMAN** SUMMON UP THEIR
REMAINING STRENGTH TO PUSH THE
TELEPORTER OUT OF THE FACTORY...

OH, SO TIRED
SO TIRED

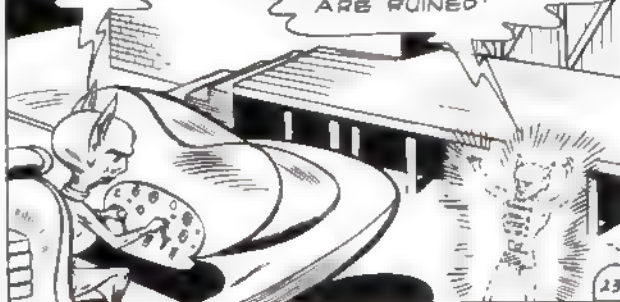
DON'T STOP NOW
GOT TO KEEP GOING
THE MANHOLE COVER.
ONLY A FEW YARDS
AWAY FROM US
NOW



AT THAT MOMENT AS KARN NEARS HIS
HIDEOUT WITH SILVER HE HAS JUST STOLEN...

ZEBO--HERE!
WHAT'S
HAPPENED?

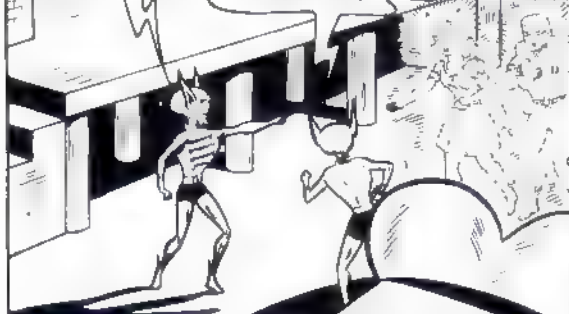
EVERYTHING! BECAUSE
OF THOSE TWO YOUNGSTERS
YOU SENT TO OUR
DIMENSION, OUR PLANS
ARE RUINED!



AS ZEBO EXPLAINS, SUDDENLY

LOOK! THEY FOLLOWED ME HERE! **DISINTEGRATE THEM!**

GLADLY! PREVIOUSLY, I WANTED TO CONSERVE THE WEAPON'S POWER, AND THEREFORE WAS MERCIFUL--BUT NOW I WILL TURN IT TO **FULL POWER!**



AT THAT INSTANT, HEARING THE MENACING VOICES AROUND THE CORNER--**BATMAN** AND **BATWOMAN** ACT QUICKLY!

I'VE TURNED THE **TELE-PORTER'S** POWER TO **REVERSE!** LET'S HOPE THE **ENERGY-FORCES** WILL RETURN TO OUR BODIES!

IF NOT, WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO SAVE **BAT-GIRL** AND **ROBIN**--OR OURSELVES!



IN THAT SPLIT-INSTANT, ON THE OTHER WORLD.

BATMAN--SOME POWER IS **TUGGING** AT ME!

WE'RE SAVED! WE'RE GOING BACK! **WE'RE GOING BACK!**



AND, SUDDENLY, ON EARTH, **BATMAN** AND **BATWOMAN** ARE REVITALIZED--**COMPLETE BEINGS AGAIN!**

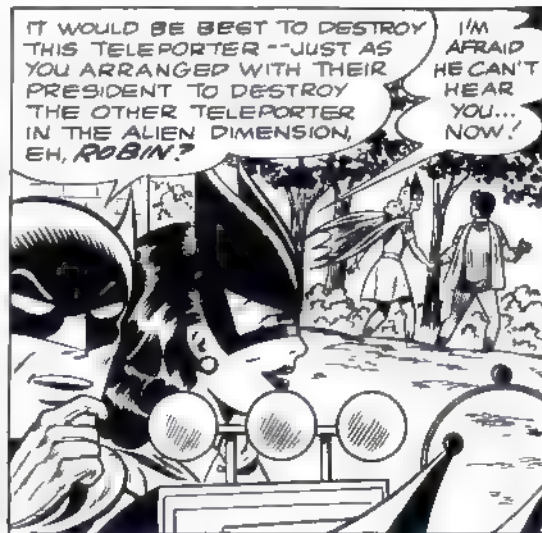
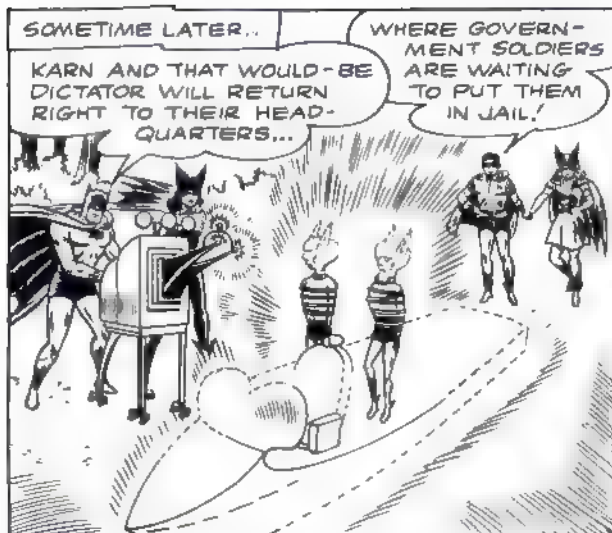
THAT DYING BEAST DRAINED OFF SOME OF OUR NORMAL STRENGTH--BUT WE'VE GOT MORE THAN ENOUGH TO HANDLE THOSE TWO ALIENS!

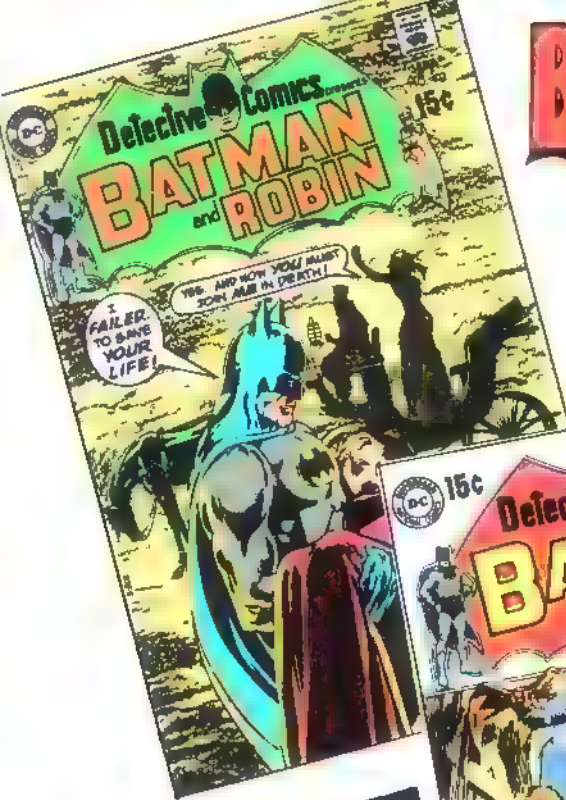
WHAT...?



NOW I FEEL LIKE MY OLD SELF AGAIN!

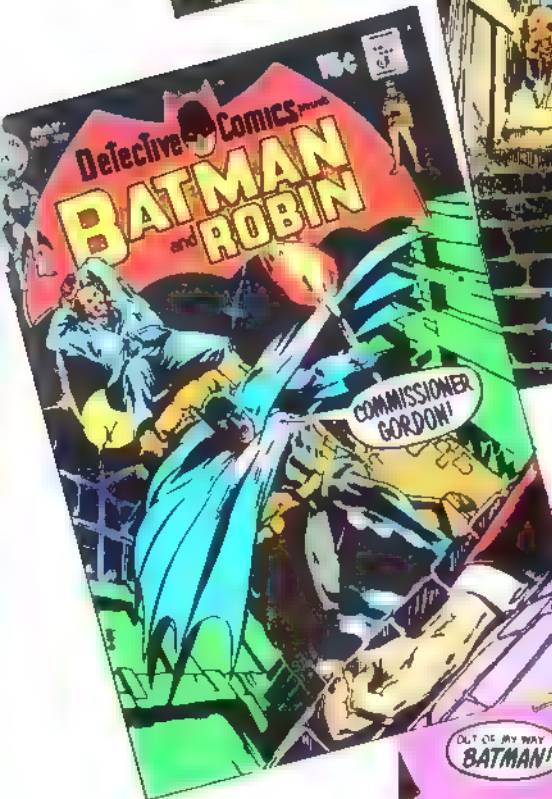
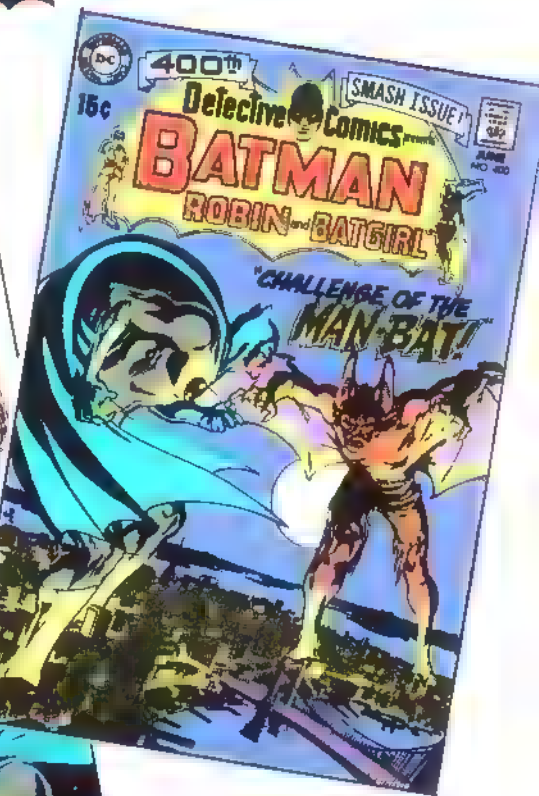


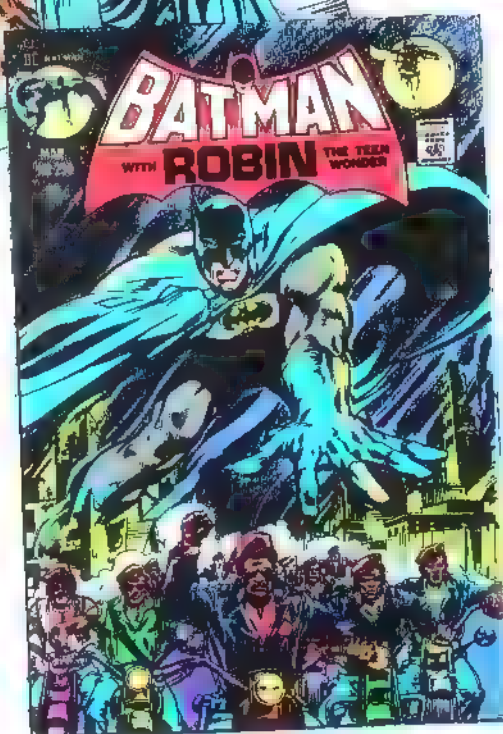
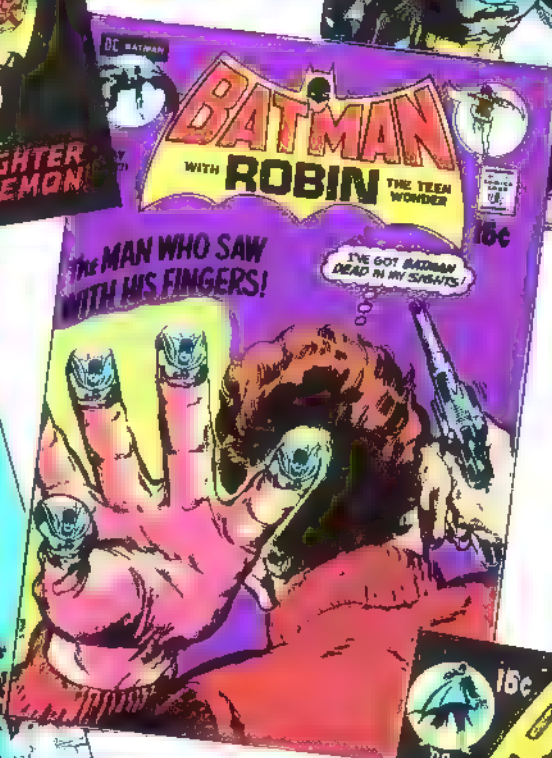
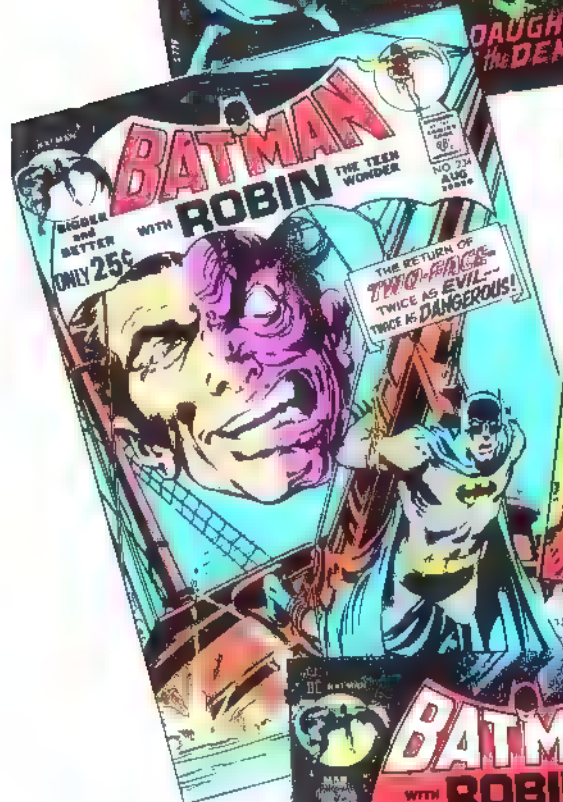




BATMAN

IN THE 70s





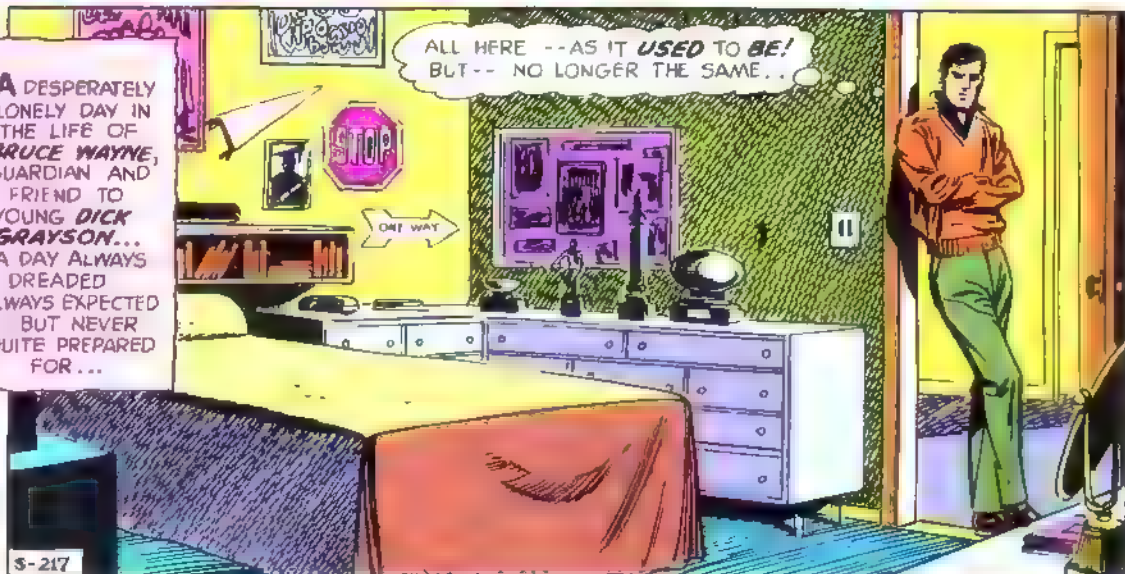
BATMAN

Art:
IRV NOVICK
&
DICK GIORDANO
Story:
FRANK ROBBINS

"ONE BULLET TOO MANY!"

A DESPERATELY LONELY DAY IN THE LIFE OF **BRUCE WAYNE**, GUARDIAN AND FRIEND TO YOUNG **DICK GRAYSON**... A DAY ALWAYS DREADED ALWAYS EXPECTED BUT NEVER QUITE PREPARED FOR...

ALL HERE -- AS IT *USED* TO BE!
BUT -- NO LONGER THE SAME...



DIDN'T THINK I'D TAKE IT *THIS* HARD!

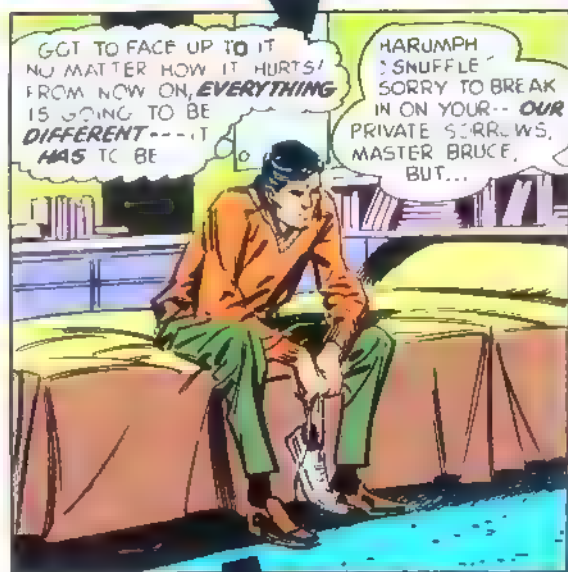


YOU NEVER KNOW TILL IT'S *TOO* LATE!

1969 National Periodical Publications, Inc.



SAME MESSY HABITS -EVEN
TO THE END! SLOPPY KID --
AND I'M 'SNIFFLE' GETTING
EVEN SLOPPIER!



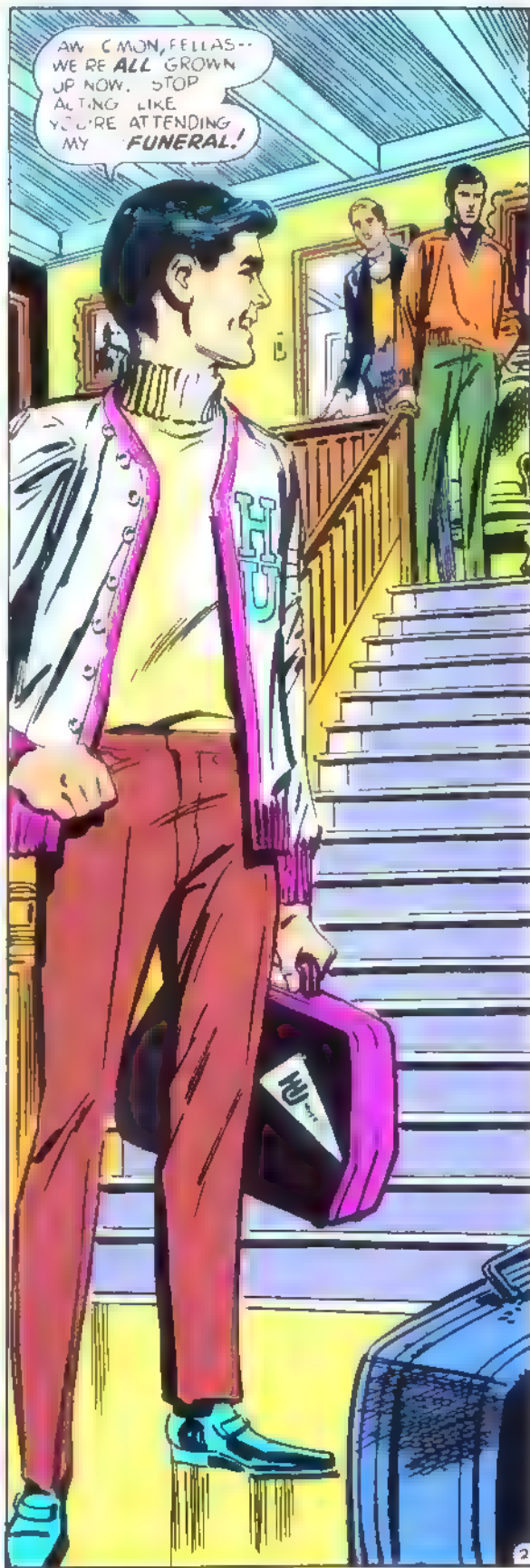
GOT TO FACE UP TO IT
NO MATTER HOW IT HURTS!
FROM NOW ON, **EVERYTHING**
IS GOING TO BE
DIFFERENT---IT
HAS TO BE

HARUMPH
'SNIFFLE'
SORRY TO BREAK
IN ON YOUR-- **OUR**
PRIVATE SORROWS.
MASTER BRUCE,
BUT...

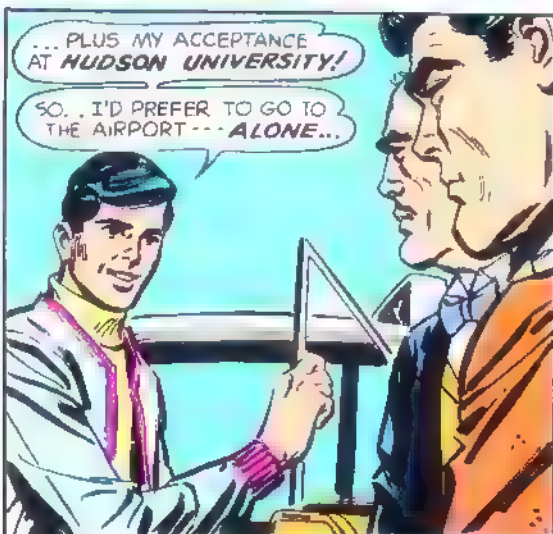
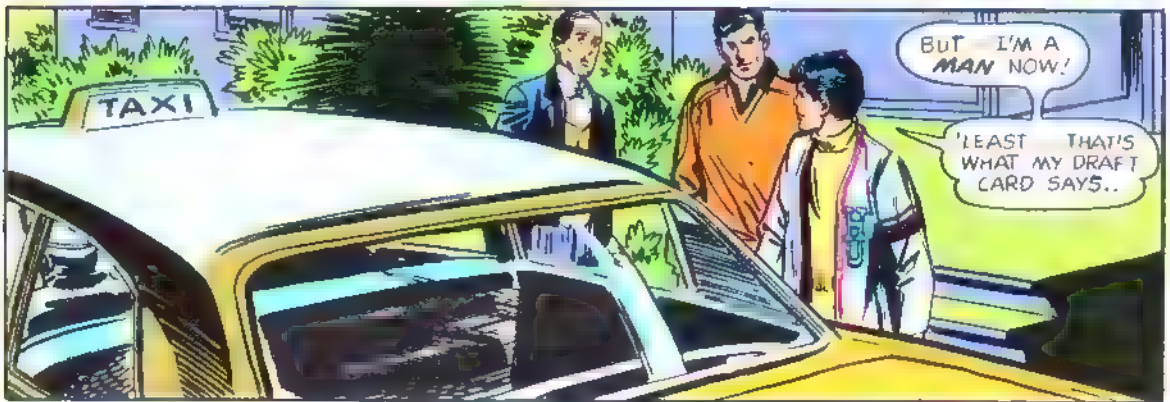
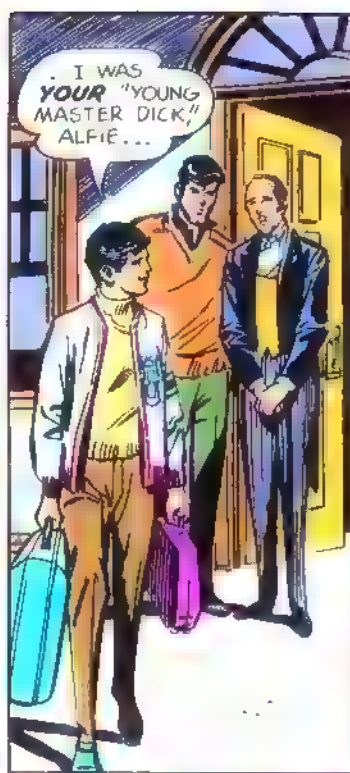
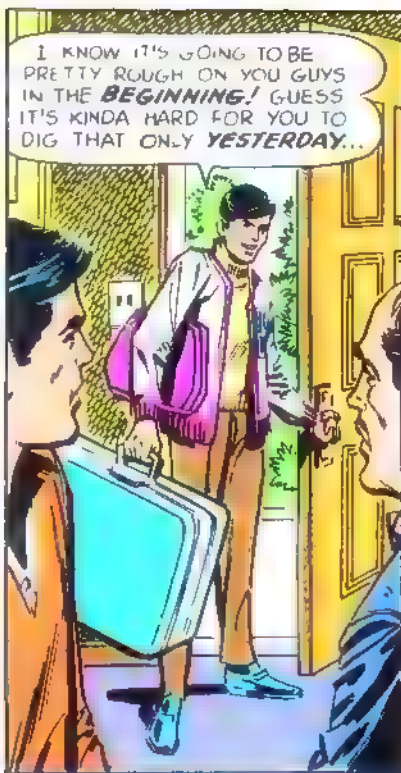


YES, ALFRED
WHAT IS IT?

ALL 'SNIFF' - ALL IS IN
READINESS, SIR! IT IS
TIME TO GO DOWN..



AW COMON, FELLAS--
WE'RE **ALL** GROWN
UP NOW. STOP
ACTING LIKE
YOU'RE ATTENDING
MY **FUNERAL!**



AND SUDDENLY A BIG, UNDER-OCCUPIED **WAYNE** MANOR BECOMES VASTER... EMPTIER!

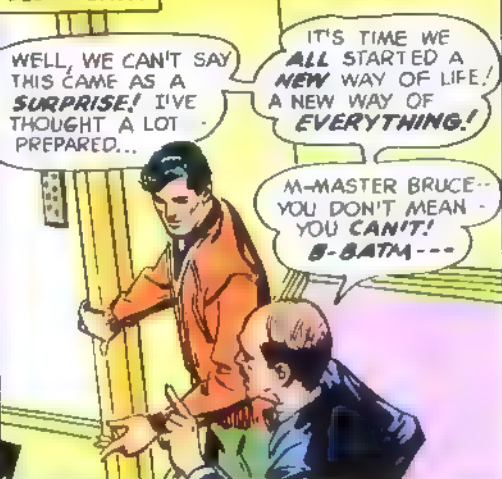


ALFRED, YOU KNOW ALL **THIS** JUST ISN'T GOING TO WORK ANY MORE --- NOT THE WAY IT USED TO BE!

I---I KNOW, MASTER BRUCE IT'S JUST TOO BIG FOR THE TWO OF US!

AND WITH YOUNG MASTER DI-ER... **MASTER** GRAYSON COMING HOME ONLY ON OCCASIONAL WEEK ENDS AND HOLIDAYS---

AS THEY TAKE THE SECRET **BATCAVE** ELEVATOR...



WELL, WE CAN'T SAY THIS CAME AS A **SURPRISE!** I'VE THOUGHT A LOT PREPARED...

IT'S TIME WE **ALL** STARTED A NEW WAY OF LIFE! A NEW WAY OF **EVERYTHING!**

M-MASTER BRUCE-- YOU DON'T MEAN YOU CAN'T! **B-BATM---**



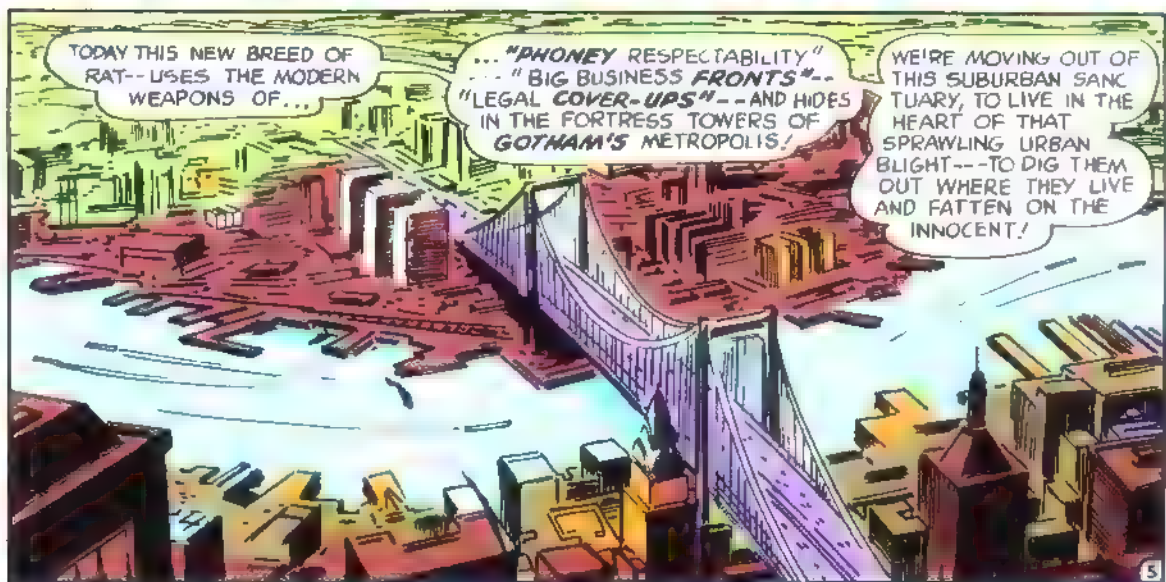
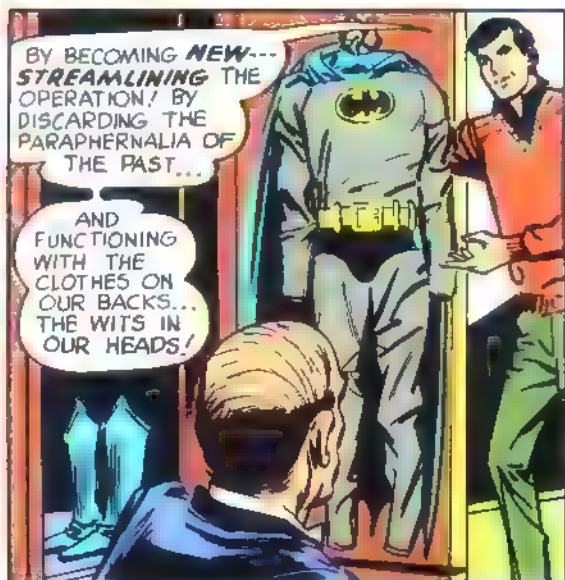
YES **BATMAN** TOO!

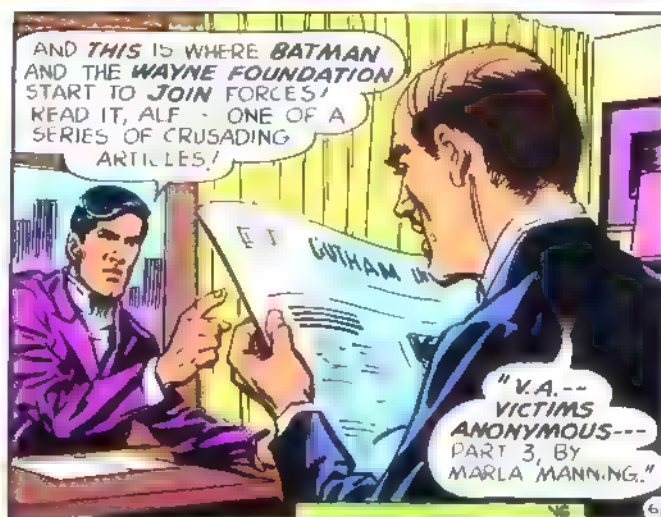
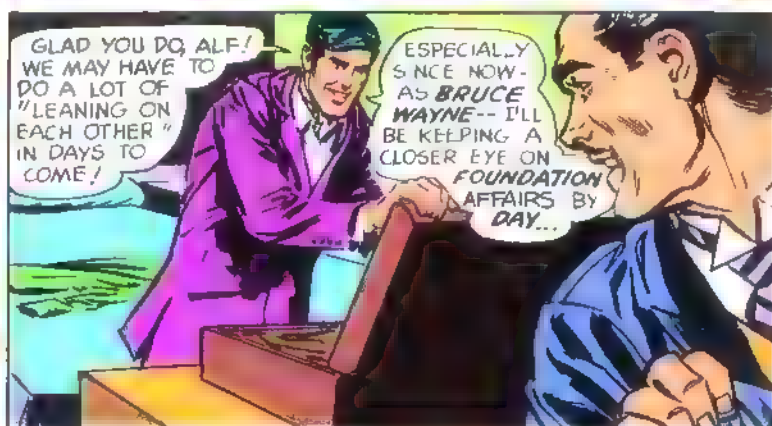
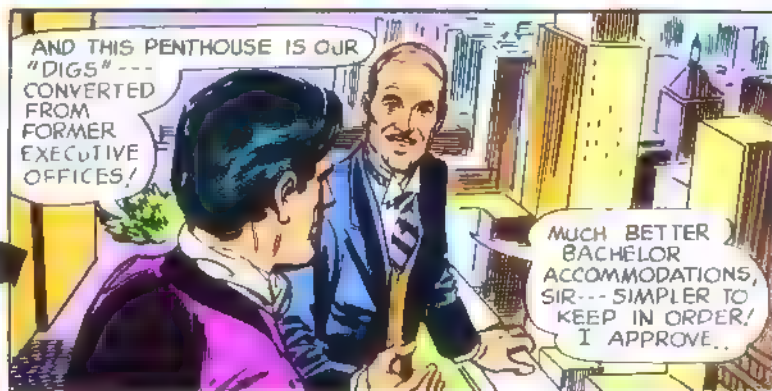
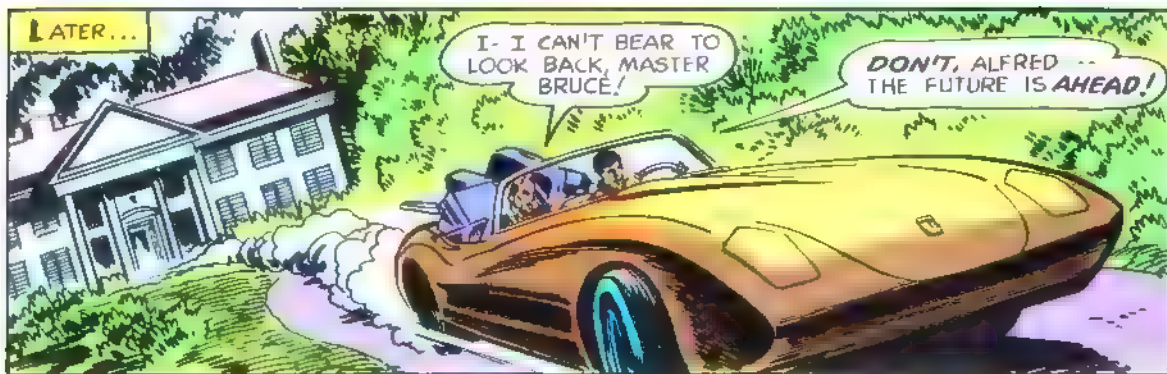
DICK'S LEAVING BROUGHT HOME THE STARK FACT THAT OUR **PRIVATE** WORLD HAS CHANGED!

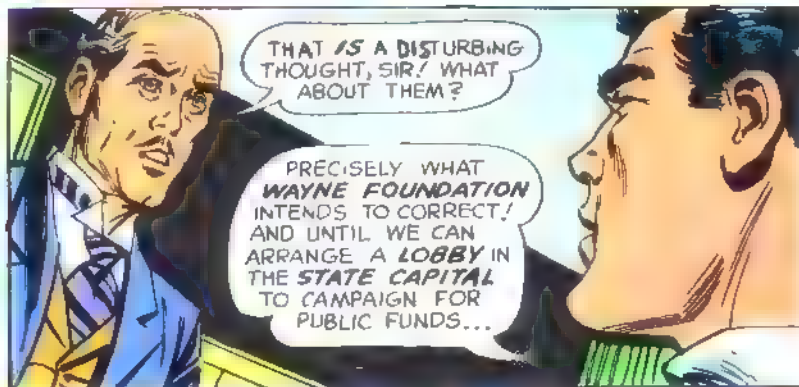
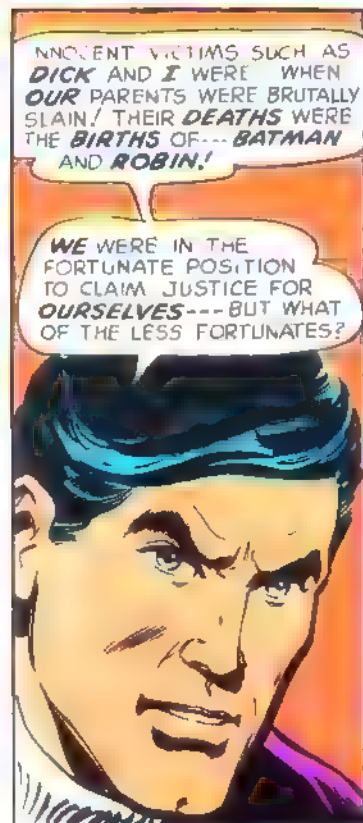
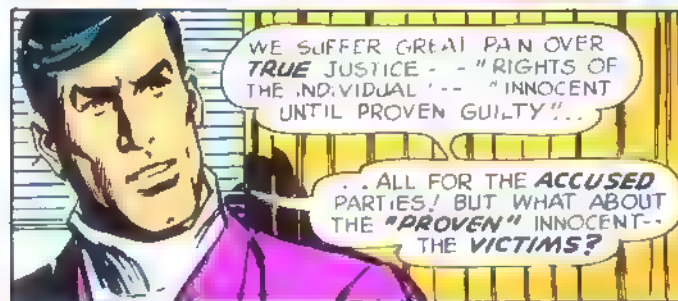
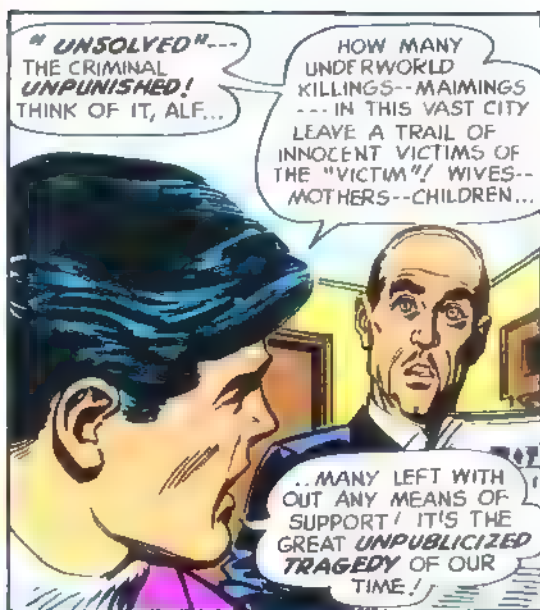
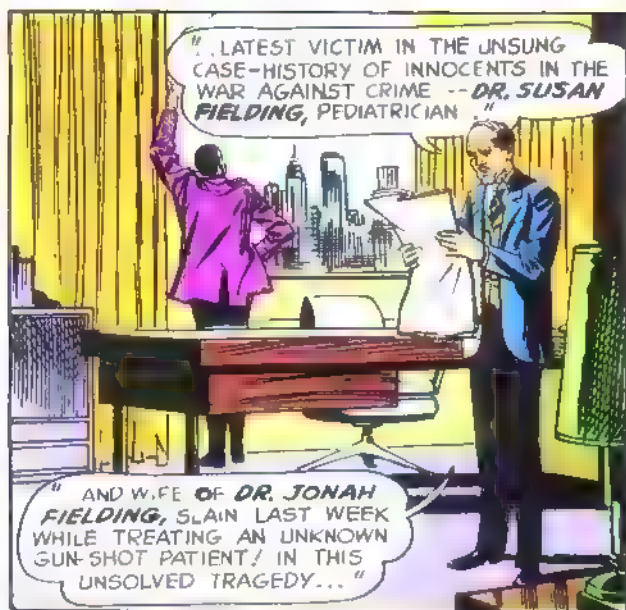


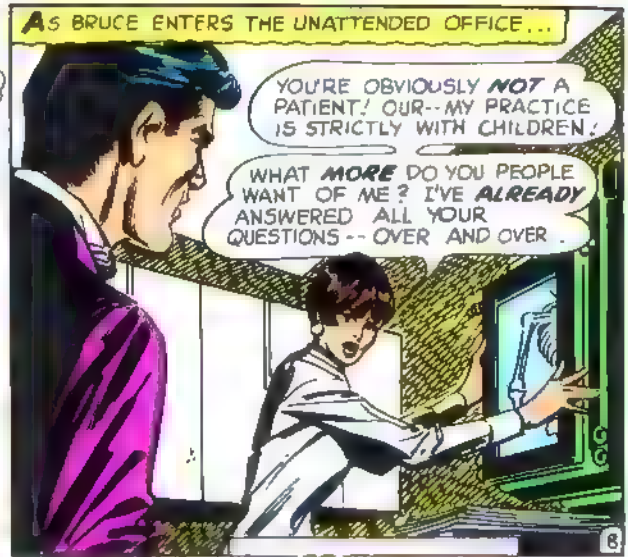
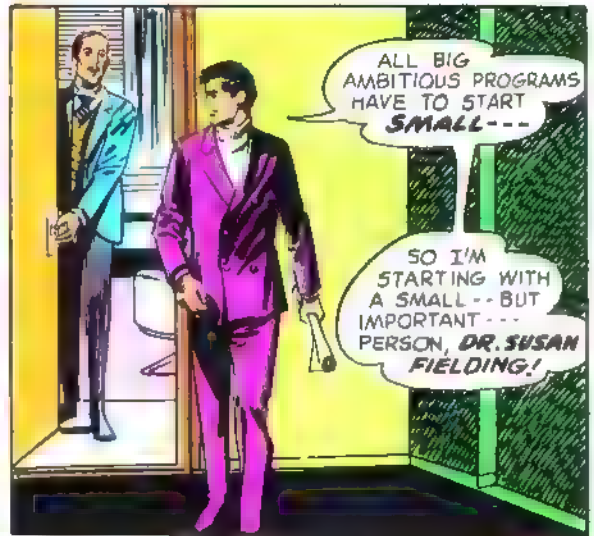
WE'RE IN GRAVE DANGER OF BECOMING **OUTMODED!** OBSOLETE DODGERS OF THE MOD WORLD OUTSIDE!

OUR BEST CHANCE FOR SURVIVAL IS TO-- **CLOSE UP SHOP** HERE!















THEN **THAT'S** SETTLED! WISH **WE** COULD FIND YOUR HUSBAND'S **KILLER** AS EASILY!

HOW COULD **YOU---** WHEN EVEN THE **POLICE** ARE UP AGAINST A **BLANK WALL?**

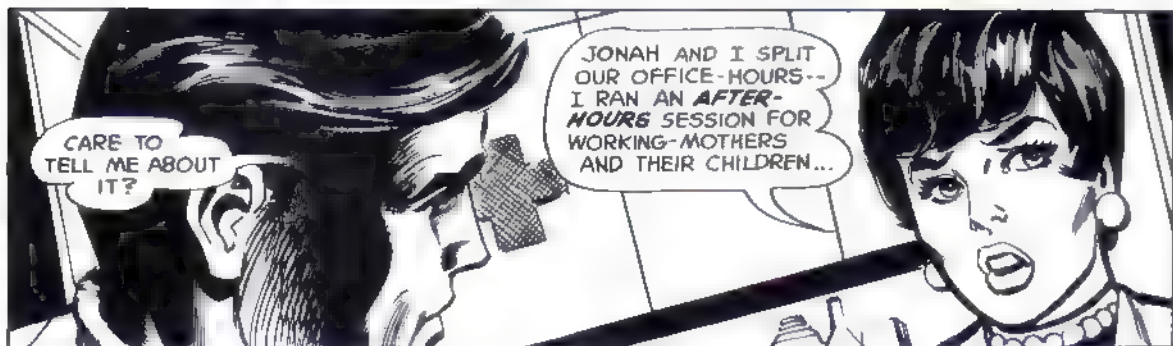


I HAVE A---FRIEND---WHO SPECIALIZES IN "BLANK WALL CASES"---**BATMAN!**

YOU **KNOW** HIM? BUT WHY WOULD **HE---** I MEAN, THIS CASE IS SO **UNIMPOR-**TANT TO SUCH A BRILLIANT CRIME-FIGHTER...

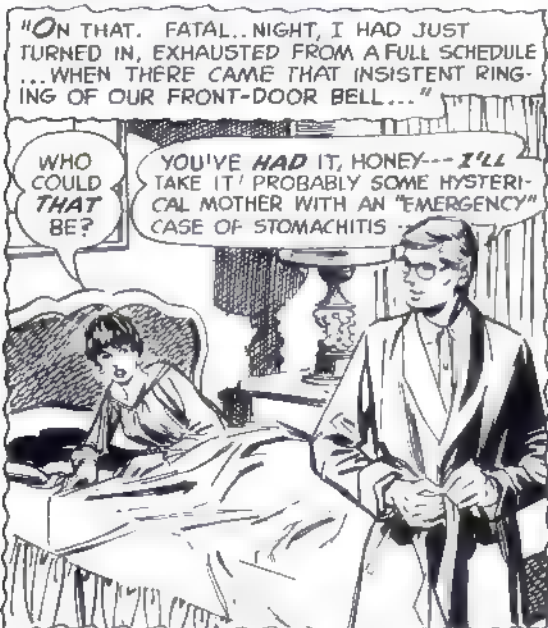


YOU DON'T KNOW HIM--- LIKE **I** DO, SUSAN! **ALL** HUMANITY IS IMPORTANT TO **BATMAN--ANY** LIFE, NO MATTER HOW INSIGNIFICANT IN THE PUBLIC EYE!



CARE TO TELL ME ABOUT IT?

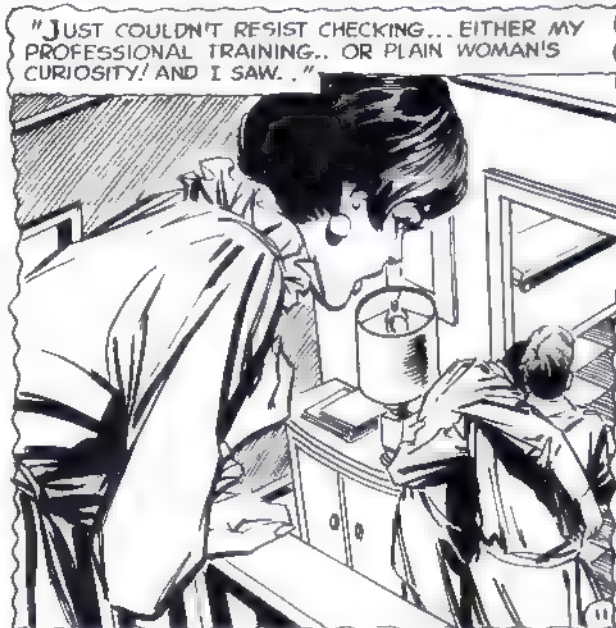
JONAH AND I SPLIT OUR OFFICE-HOURS-- I RAN AN **AFTER-HOURS** SESSION FOR WORKING-MOTHERS AND THEIR CHILDREN...



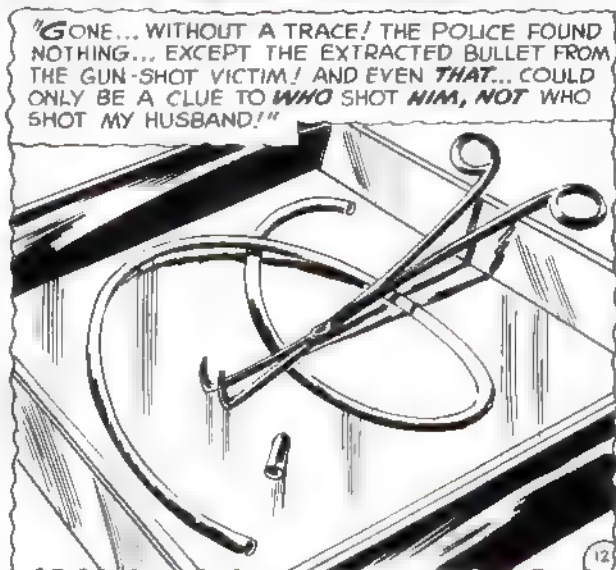
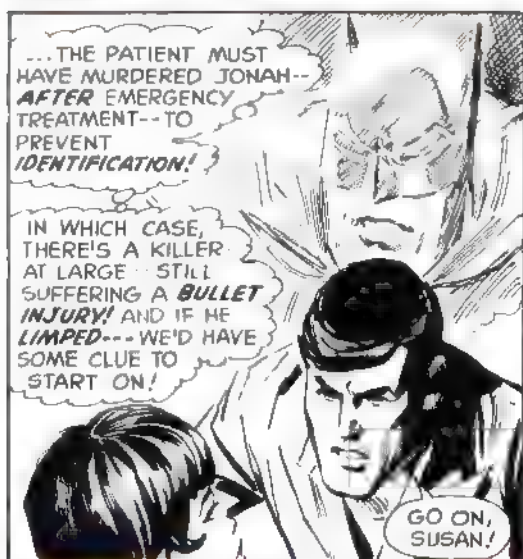
"ON THAT. FATAL.. NIGHT, I HAD JUST TURNED IN, EXHAUSTED FROM A FULL SCHEDULE ...WHEN THERE CAME THAT INSISTENT RING-ING OF OUR FRONT-DOOR BELL..."

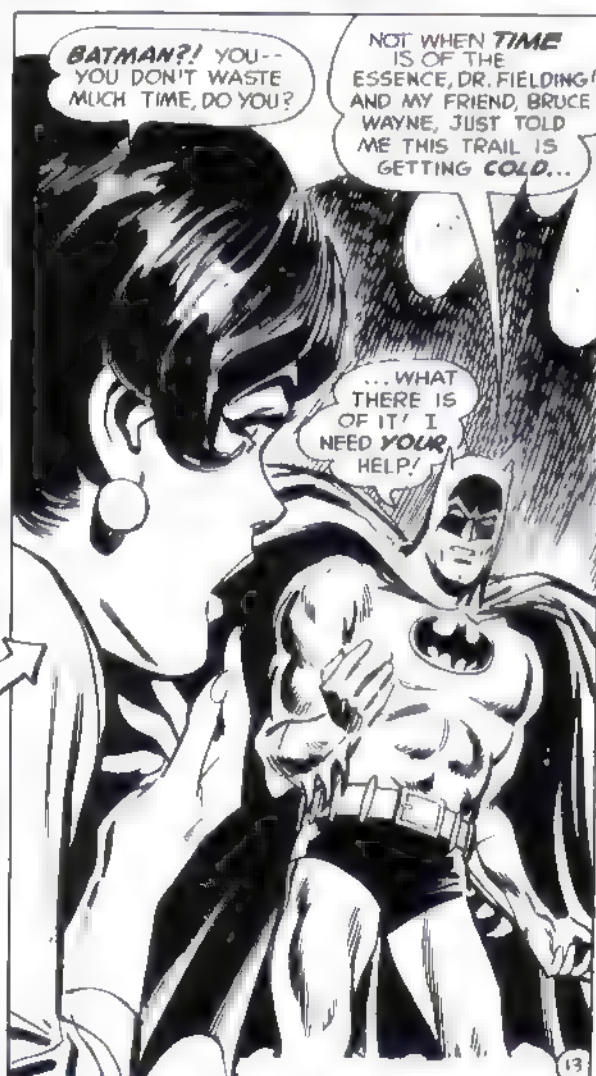
WHO COULD **THAT** BE?

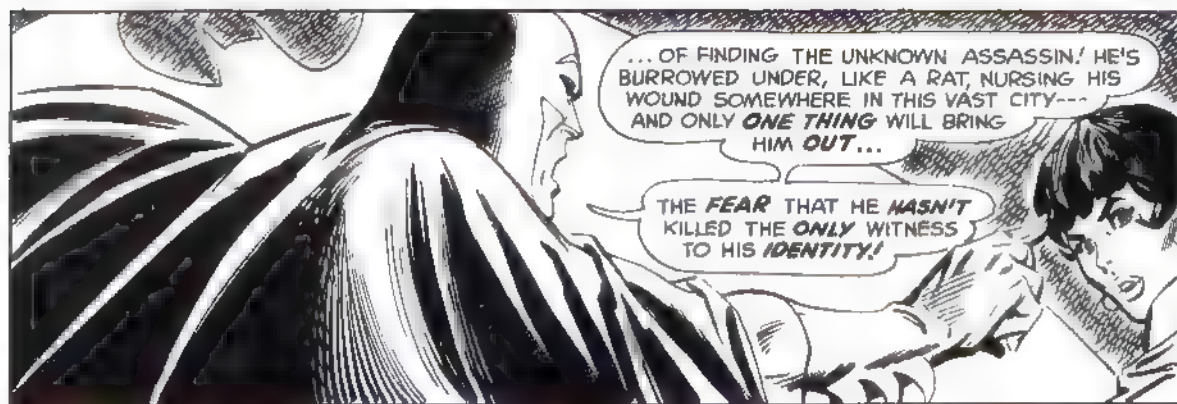
YOU'VE **HAD** IT, HONEY--- I'LL TAKE IT! PROBABLY SOME HYSTERICAL MOTHER WITH AN "EMERGENCY" CASE OF STOMACHITIS...



"JUST COULDN'T RESIST CHECKING... EITHER MY PROFESSIONAL TRAINING.. OR PLAIN WOMAN'S CURIOSITY! AND I SAW..."







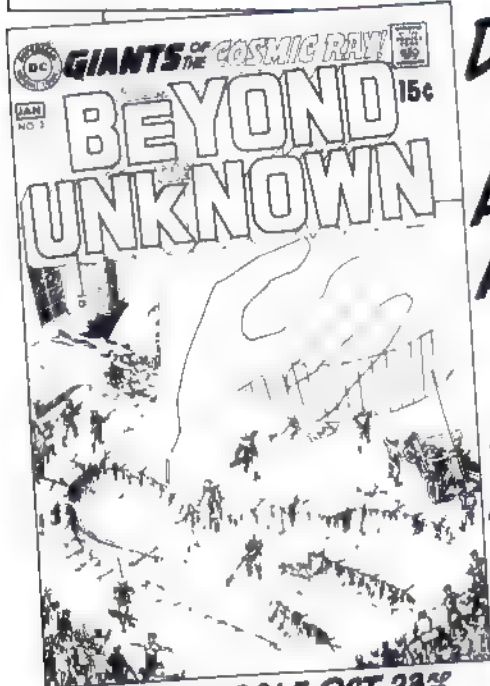
WITH SUSAN'S GO-AHEAD, **BATMAN** WASTES NO TIME! BECOMING A MAN OF A "THOUSAND FACES"...



AND IN THE EARLY HOURS OF DAWN...

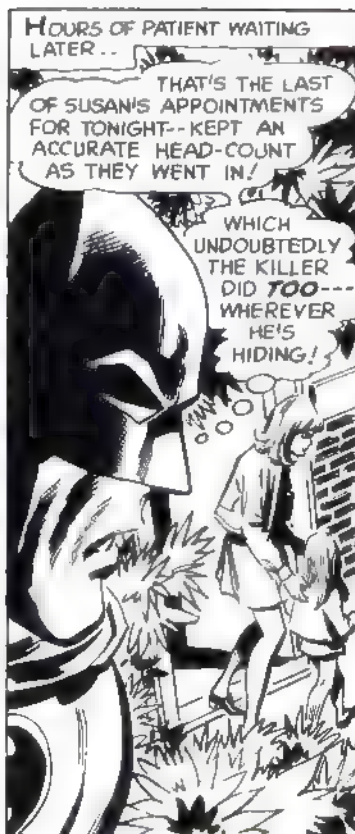


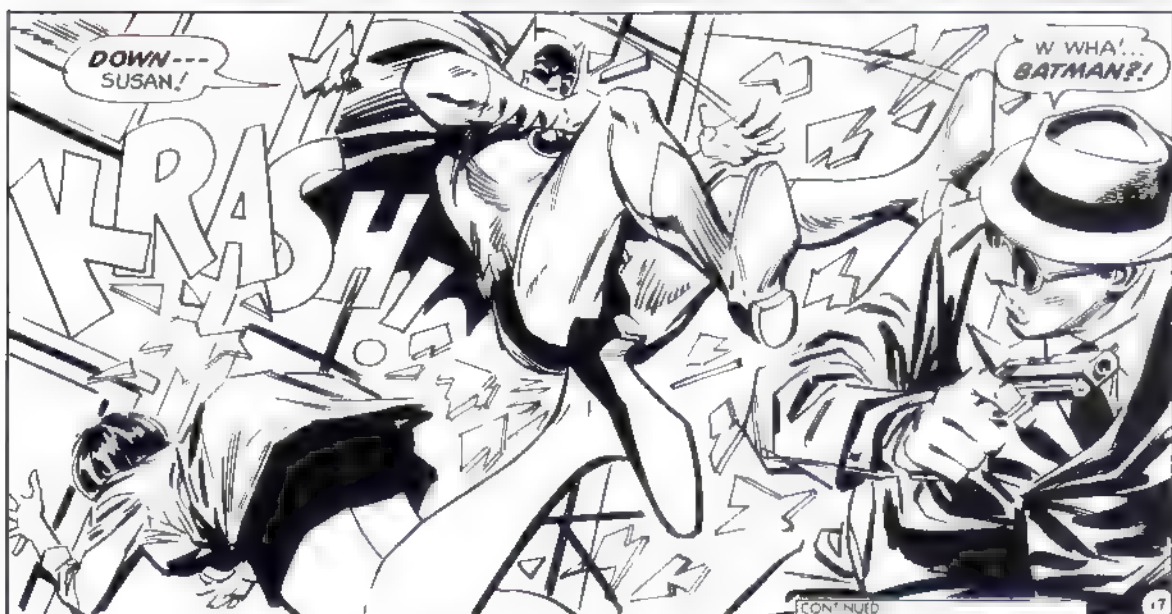
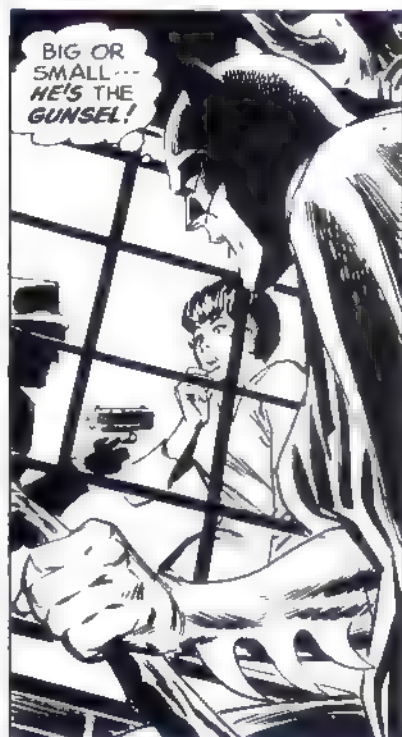
WHO DONE IT? WHO IS IT?



DISCOVER THE AMAZING ANSWERS IN THESE LATEST DC HITS!







(CONTINUED)

17

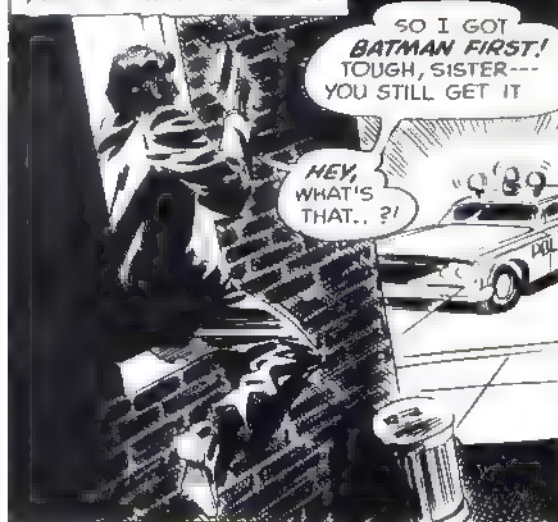




BUT EVEN AS THE GUNMAN FIRES, **BATMAN** MAKES A SACRIFICE INTERCEPT, AND...



AND AT THAT MOMENT...



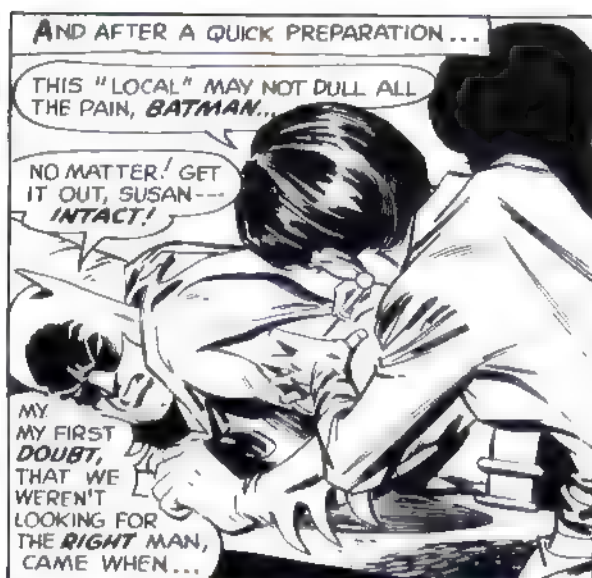
AS ONE POLICEMAN GIVES CHASE.





BECAUSE THIS JOLT SHOCKED ME INTO THE REALIZATION THAT...

THE WHOLE **ANSWER** TO THIS MYSTERY DEPENDS ON **IDENTIFICATION** OF THIS **BULLET!**



AND AFTER A QUICK PREPARATION...

THIS "LOCAL" MAY NOT DULL ALL THE PAIN, **BATMAN**...

NO MATTER! GET IT OUT, SUSAN--- **INTACT!**

MY MY FIRST **DOUBT**, THAT WE WEREN'T LOOKING FOR THE **RIGHT MAN**, CAME WHEN...



WHEN... THAT **SHORT** GUNMAN TOOK THE BAIT AFTER OUR "LEAK" THAT YOU, SUSAN, COULD IDENTIFY THE "KILLER"

YET... THE GUN-SHOT VICTIM YOU GLIMPSED WAS A "BIG" MAN!



AND... THIS SMALL JOKER WAS **HEALTHY** AND STRONG AS AN OX! NOT THE "INVALID" WE EXPECTED!

OW-TCH!

GOT IT...



YOU MEAN-- THERE WERE **TWO** MEN? BUT I ONLY SAW **ONE**...

BEFORE YOU WENT BACK TO BED! BUT SUPPOSE "SHORTY" JOINED THE PARTY-- BEFORE YOUR HUSBAND WAS SHOT!



LOST HIM...! AND DIDN'T GET AN EFFECTIVE I.D.--

TOO BAD-- BUT THIS SLUG MAY PUT THE FINGER ON HIM! TAKE US TO THE CRIME LAB--- FAST!

ODD--- I END UP THE "MAN" WITH HIS ARM IN A SLING!!

LATER, AT POLICE H.Q. .

YEP---THEY *MATCH!*
THE ONE FROM YOUR
ARM, *BATMAN*--AND THE ONE
WE TOOK FROM DR. FIELDING'S
BODY!

ONE SLUG-- BUT SUSAN HEARD
TWO SHOTS! NOW IT ALL FALLS
INTO PLACE!

GIVE ME A
COMPARISON-
CHECK ON THE
THIRD BULLET!
THE ONE JONAH
FIELDING EXTRACTED
FROM HIS GUN-
SHOT "VICTIM"!

BUT WHERE DOES
THAT FIGURE IN? *CAN'T*
BE THE SAME AS THESE
TWO!

A GUY DOESN'T
SHOOT *HIM-
SELF* ON
PURPOSE BE-
FORE GOING
TO A DOC..?

PRECISELY!

WHEN THE BALLISTICS CHECK IS RUN...

IT IS THE SAME! ALL
THREE-- FROM THE *SAME*
GUN! BUT THAT'S...

...IMPOSSIBLE? JUST
WHAT THE *REAL* KILLER
WANTED YOU TO THINK...

SO YOU'D ALL GO ON A
WILD-GOOSE CHASE, HUNTING
ONE MAN WITH HIS ARM IN
A SLING! THE GUN-SHOT
VICTIM...

...WHO MAY BE AT
THE *BOTTOM* OF THE
RIVER, WHILE "SHORTY"
ROAMS *FREE*!

THE WAY I SEE IT--*TWO*
THUGS HAD A FALLING
OUT! "SHORTY" SHOOTS
HIS PARTNER-- BUT NOT
GOOD ENOUGH-- HE GETS
AWAY! "SHORTY" FOLLOWS--
CATCHES HIM IN THE DOC'S
OFFICE...

...AND BLASTS THEM *BOTH*!
CARRIES OFF HIS EX-BUDDY--
AND DISPOSES OF HIM!

NOW WHAT "TEAM" FITS
THAT VAGUE DESCRIPTION?

SURE... SURE!
"HOP" MILLER--
AND "STUB"
SARTEL! AND
BIG "HOP"
HASN'T BEEN
SEEN AROUND
LATELY!

SO--DRAG THE RIVER--AND GET
OUT AN ALL-POINTS ALERT
FOR "STUB"! AND YOU'VE
CLOSED THE CASE OF...
*ONE BULLET TOO
MANY*!

BATMAN

WITH ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

INTRODUCING
THE NEW
BATGIRL



OUT OF THE SUPER-STAR STUDDED
FIRMAMENT OF GOTHAM CITY,
WHERE BATMAN AND ROBIN
SHINE SUPREME AS MASKED
MANHUNTERS-- BURSTS A BRAND
NEW LUMINARY-- BATGIRL!
AND LIKE THAT VERY BATMAN
AFTER WHOM SHE MODELS HERSELF--
SHE TOO BATTLES CRIME AND IN-
JUSTICE IN A MANNER WONDROUS
ENOUGH FOR NEWSPAPERS TO
PROCLAIM IN BANNER HEADLINES--

"THE MILLION DOLLAR DEBUT OF BATGIRL!"

NOW THAT I'VE GOT BATGIRL
OUT OF THE WAY, I CAN GIVE MY
FULL ATTENTION TO MY OLD
NEMESIS, BATMAN!

WHO IS THIS NEW
BATGIRL WHO SEEMS
TO HAVE TAKEN OVER
MY CRIME-FIGHTING
TERRITORY?



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IN THE **GOTHAM CITY LIBRARY** AFTER CLOSING HOURS, BARBARA GORDON, LIBRARIAN AND DAUGHTER OF POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON, IS IN STITCHES ...

LOOK AT THE TIME! I BETTER FINISH MY COSTUME FOR THE **POLICEMAN'S MASQUERADE BALL** TONIGHT--AND GET GOING!



SHORTLY, SHE SLIPS INTO A LARGE CLOSET WHICH SHE HAS CONVERTED INTO A DRESSING ROOM ...

THE WHOLE WORLD THINKS I'M JUST A PLAIN JANE--A COLORLESS FEMALE 'BRAIN'! I'LL SHOW THEM A FAR MORE IMPOSING GIRL TONIGHT!



A STARTLING TRANSFORMATION ...

WELL!!! THIS "**BATGIRL**" COSTUME REALLY **DOES** THINGS FOR ME! I CAN HARDLY WAIT FOR THE MIDNIGHT UNMASKING HOUR--AND THE **SHOCK** I'LL GIVE DAD!

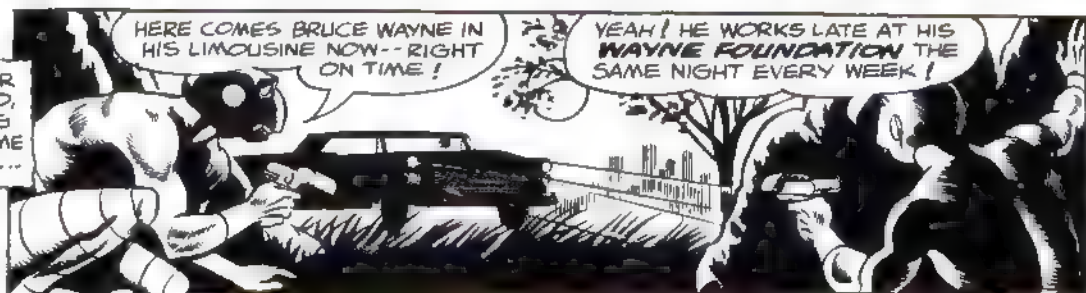


SOON SHE IS DRIVING ALONG THE SUBURBAN HIGHWAY TOWARD THE HOTEL WHERE THE MASQUE BALL IS BEING HELD ...



I MADE MY **PH.D.** AT **GOTHAM STATE UNIVERSITY**! I GRADUATED **SUMMA CUM LAUDE**! I WEAR A BROWN BELT AT JUDO! BUT TONIGHT WILL BE THE HIGHLIGHT OF MY LIFE!

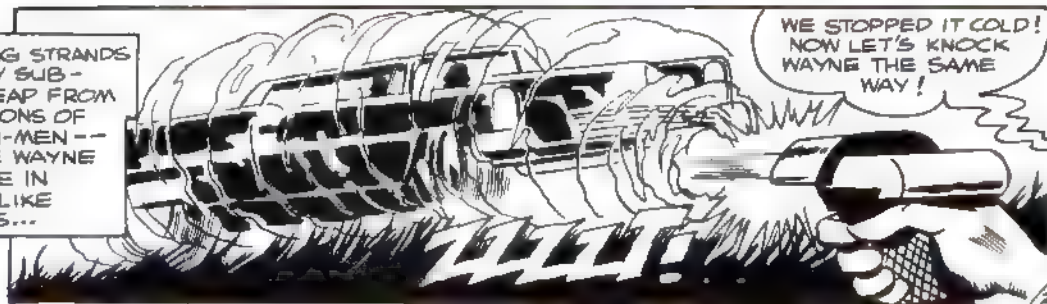
NOT FAR AHEAD, ALONG THE SAME ROAD...



HERE COMES BRUCE WAYNE IN HIS LIMOUSINE NOW--RIGHT ON TIME!

YEAH! HE WORKS LATE AT HIS **WAYNE FOUNDATION** THE SAME NIGHT EVERY WEEK!

GLISTENING STRANDS OF GOOEY SUBSTANCE LEAP FROM THE WEAPONS OF THE MOTH-MEN--WRAP THE WAYNE LIMOUSINE IN COCOON-LIKE FOLDS...



WE STOPPED IT COLD! NOW LET'S KNOCK WAYNE THE SAME WAY!

EVEN AS A DOOR OF THE LIMOUSINE IS OPENED AND MILLIONAIRE BRUCE WAYNE YANKED OUT..



OH!! COSTUMED MEN GANGING UP ON THAT DRIVER! I'VE GOT TO HELP HIM!

SCREEEE!



WHY--THAT'S BRUCE WAYNE THEY'RE ATTACKING--DADDY'S MILLIONAIRE FRIEND! HE'S ALWAYS REGARDED ME AS A MOUSEY SORT OF PERSON! I WONDER WHAT HE'D SAY IF HE KNEW WHO IT WAS COMING TO RESCUE HIM! I'LL DISGUISE MY VOICE--SO HE DOESN'T RECOGNIZE IT!



WHO'S THIS?



THAT'S A BREAK! IT'LL GIVE ME A CHANCE TO RUN JUST FAR ENOUGH TO CHANGE INTO MY BATMAN COSTUME UNOBSERVED! THAT--BT--NEW BATGIRL MAY NOT BE AS GOOD AS SHE THINKS SHE IS!



I'M A FIRST KYU JUDO EXPERT, BOYS-- AS I'M WILLING TO DEMONSTRATE!

HEY! WHATTA WE GOT HOLD OF HERE?

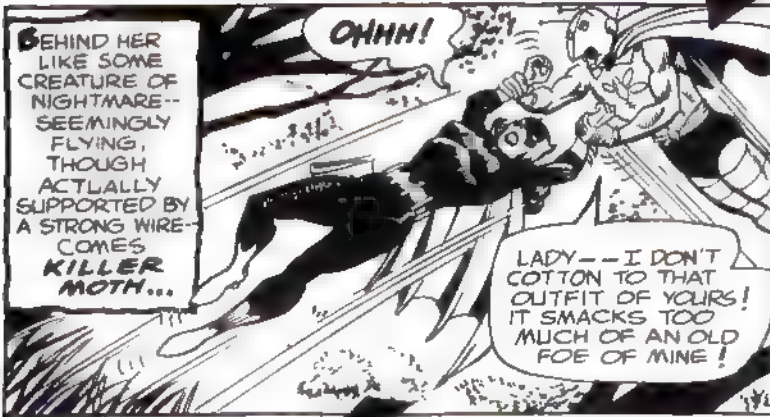
YA MEAN-- WHAT'S GOT HOLD OF US!



BUT--HELD ON THAT ALMOST INVISIBLE WIRE THAT REELS HIM UPWARD AND AWAY FROM DANGER-- **KILLER MOTH** RETREATS SKYWARD...

NOW TO PUT THE FINISHING TOUCH--

KLUNK!



BEHIND HER LIKE SOME CREATURE OF NIGHTMARE-- SEEMINGLY FLYING, THOUGH ACTUALLY SUPPORTED BY A STRONG WIRE-- COMES **KILLER MOTH**...

OHHH!

LADY-- I DON'T COTTON TO THAT OUTFIT OF YOURS! IT SMACKS TOO MUCH OF AN OLD FOE OF MINE!

HE'S GETTING AWAY! AFTER HIM, **BATMAN!**

NO WAY TO DO THAT NOW! FOR THE MOMENT ALL I CAN DO IS FREE YOU-- AND SEE THAT THOSE MOTH-MEN OF HIS ARE TAKEN TO JAIL!



YES! THIS IS THAT LETHAL LEPIDOPTERON WHOSE EXPLOITS HAVE MADE HIM A PRIME ENEMY OF THE **CAPED CRUSADER**! HAVING BURST FROM THE COCOON OF STATE PRISON-- HE IS BACK AT HIS OLD FLITTING GROUNDS...

YOU BETTER STICK TO MY KNITTING ON THAT COCOON WHILE MY MOTH-MOB ROUNDS UP BRUCE WAYNE!



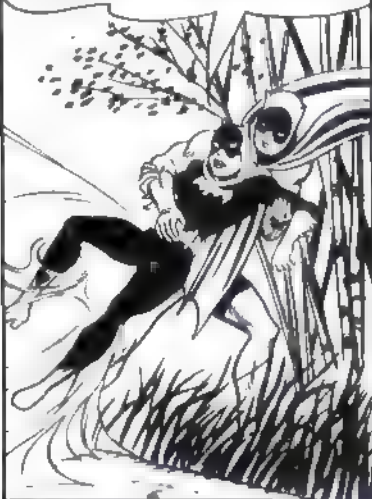
THEN--OUT OF THE NIGHT-TIME DARKNESS A MIGHTY FIST SWINGING LIKE A SLEDGEHAMMER...

STUCK FAST-- CAN'T GET LOOSE--



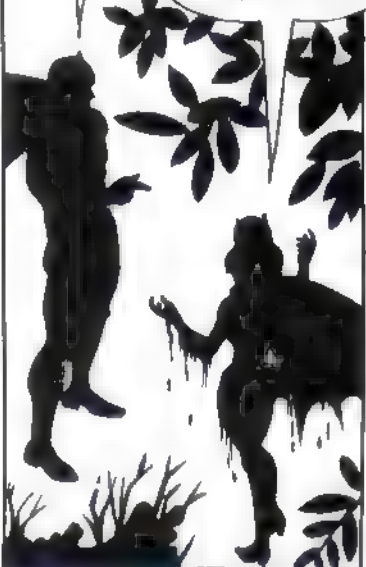
HER EYES SPARKLE! HER BREATH COMES FASTER! HER HEART THUMPS WITH ALARMING SPEED! BABS GORDON IS HAVING THE TIME OF HER LIFE--FULLY ALIVE TO THIS NEW EXCITEMENT AND DANGER--AND LOVING IT!...

BATMAN-- BRUCE WAYNE IS IN DEADLY DANGER! THOSE MOTH-MEN WERE ABOUT TO BEAT HIM UP WHEN I HAPPENED ALONG! **KILLER MOTH** IS BOUND TO TRY AGAIN...



I'LL TAKE PERSONAL CHARGE OF BRUCE WAYNE, MA'AM! BUT WHO ARE **YOU**? HOW COME YOU'RE WEARING THAT-- THAT **BATGIRL** COSTUME?

I WAS GOING TO THE POLICE-MEN'S BALL-- BUT I CAN'T NOW! MY COSTUME'S A MESS! AS FOR MY SECRET IDENTITY--I'LL EXCHANGE MINE FOR YOURS...



NO DEAL!

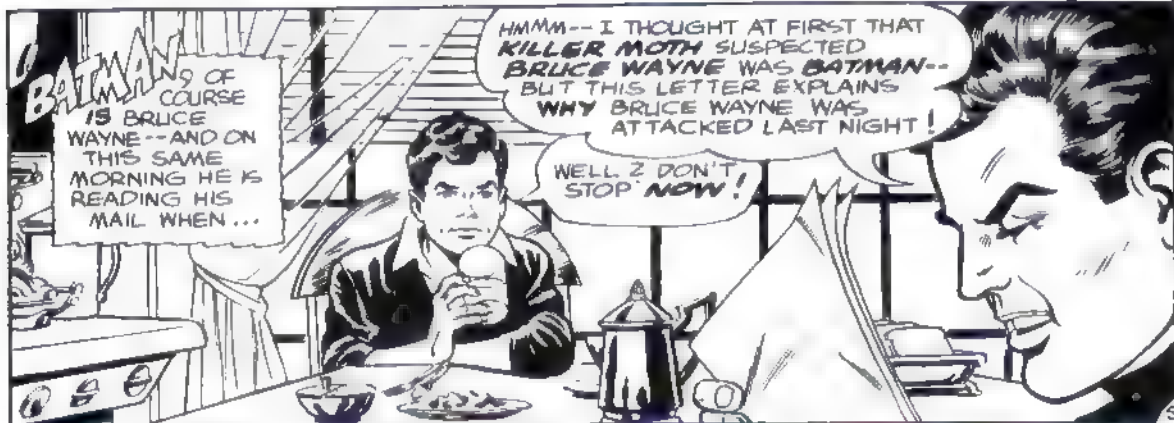
I THOUGHT NOT!

FOR ALL I KNOW THIS MARKS THE DEBUT AND FAREWELL APPEARANCE OF **BATGIRL**! IT WAS FUN WHILE IT LASTED...



NEXT DAY, DR. BARBARA GORDON TRIES TO LOSE HERSELF IN THE MUNDANE WORLD OF THE LIBRARY...

I ALMOST WISH I'D NEVER MADE THAT **BATGIRL** COSTUME! NOW MY LIFE SEEMS EMPTY AND HUMDRUM! I HOPE **BATMAN** IS GUARDING BRUCE WAYNE-- AND I WISH I WERE THERE TO HELP...



BATMAN OF COURSE IS BRUCE WAYNE--AND ON THIS SAME MORNING HE IS READING HIS MAIL WHEN...

HMM-- I THOUGHT AT FIRST THAT **KILLER MOTH** SUSPECTED BRUCE WAYNE WAS **BATMAN**-- BUT THIS LETTER EXPLAINS WHY BRUCE WAYNE WAS ATTACKED LAST NIGHT!

WELL, I DON'T STOP NOW!





NOT LONG AFTER, IN **MOTH MANSION...**

SO! BRUCE WAYNE ADVISES ME HE WON'T PAY! HE'S GOING TO STAY PUT IN HIS HOUSE-- SURROUNDED BY THE POLICE! I WARNED HIM THAT TO TIP OFF THE COPS WOULD MEAN HIS DEATH--

AND THAT'S THE WAY IT'S GONNA BE-- EH, KILLER?

LARVA, YOU AND PUPA KEEP AN EYE ON WAYNE MANSION! SOONER OR LATER, THOSE COPS WILL FINALLY LEAVE! WE'LL MOVE IN WHEN THEY GO! WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO BRUCE WAYNE WILL GUARANTEE US FULL COOPERATION FROM THOSE OTHER MILLIONAIRES STILL ON THE LIST!

NOW BEGINS FOR THE TWO MOTH-MEN A PERIOD OF UN-RELAXING VIGILANCE...

WE'VE BEEN HERE FOR THREE DAYS-- AND HAVEN'T SIGHTED A SINGLE COP! BUT BRUCE WAYNE KEEPS HIMSELF HOLED UP IN THE HOUSE!

HE WAS BLUFFIN' ABOUT CALLING IN THE COPS! IT'S TIME WE REPORTED TO BOSS-MOTH!



DURING THESE SAME DREARY DAYS OF WAITING, BARBARA GORDON IS ALSO MARKING TIME. BUT HER NIGHTS ARE FILLED WITH ACTIVITY...

SIGH: I SUPPOSE I'LL NEVER USE IT-- BUT I CAN DREAM... AND THIS NEW BATGIRL COSTUME WILL BE READY... JUST IN CASE...



AFTER HOURS, IN THE BASEMENT STOREROOM OF THE LIBRARY, SHE KEEPS HERSELF IN FIGHTING SHAPE...

I'M STRONGER AND HARDER THAN I'VE EVER BEEN, THANKS TO MY SPECIAL PROTEIN DIET AND INTENSIVE EXERCISE!



BUT--ALAS FOR DREAMS AND EXPECTATIONS OF HIGH ADVENTURE!-- CRASS EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES MUST ALWAYS TAKE PRECEDENCE.

THIS RARE EDITION OF THE *BAYPSALM BOOK* WHICH BRUCE WAYNE HAS BEEN AFTER ME TO GET HIM JUST ARRIVED SPECIAL DELIVERY! HE COLLECTS RARE BOOKS-- AND SOMETIMES MY CONTACTS HELP LOCATE THEM FOR HIM!

IT'S AFTER HOURS! I'LL DRIVE OUT TO WAYNE MANOR TONIGHT AND GIVE IT TO HIM PERSONALLY! THIS BOOK IS MUCH TO VALUABLE TO LEAVE LYING ABOUT! *

***EDITOR'S NOTE:** IN 1947 A PERFECT COPY OF THIS BOOK BROUGHT \$151,000 AT AUCTION--THE THIRD HIGHEST PRICE EVER PAID FOR A BOOK UP TO THAT TIME!

AND SO AS THE MOON PEEPS DOWN THROUGH THE TREES ON THE WAYNE ESTATE, AN HOUR LATER...

THAT SOUNDED LIKE A--**GUNSHOT!**

KA-BLANN!

RACING TO THE WINDOW, THE GIRL LIBRARIAN FREEZES AS SHE SEES...

BRUCE WAYNE--MURDERED!

BRUCE WAYNE DEAD?! FOR HIS DEFIANCE OF **KILLER MOTH**, HE HAS APPARENTLY PAID THE SUPREME PENALTY! BUT KEEP READING... FOR THE UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENTS THAT ARE SOON TO SHAKE **BATGIRL** DOWN TO HER PRETTY TOES!

He's NOT

as STRONG as... **SUPERMAN**
 as BRAINY as... **BATMAN**
 as FAST as... **the FLASH**
 as SMALL as... **the ATOM**
 or as WET as... **AQUAMAN!**

WHAT IS HE?

HE'S THE ONE, THE ONLY, **ORIGINAL PLASTIC MAN!**

THE SLYEST, SLIPPERY-EST, SLINKY-EST **SUPER-HERO** OF THEM ALL!

MAKING HIS TRIUMPHANT APPEARANCE IN THE **2ND SMASH ISSUE!**

DC NEW! The FANTASTIC 12

PLASTIC MAN

HAVE WE GOT AN ORIGIN STORY FOR YOU? HERE, NO. WE'VE GOT 38 OF THEM, AND ONE'S COOLER THAN THE NEXT, IN **"THE MANY LIVES OF PLASTIC MAN!"**

OUTA MY WAY, COPS! NOBODY STOPS THE SPIDER!

ON SALE NOV. 22nd

SUPERMAN NATIONAL COMICS DC



MILLION DOLLAR DEBUT of BATGIRL--

PART 2

SURGING FURY FILLS THE HEART OF THE LIBRARIAN EVEN AS TEARS BRIM OVER IN HER EYES! SHE HAS WORKED FOR THIS MOMENT WHEN SHE CAN ONCE AGAIN APPEAR AS BATGIRL-- BUT NOW ALL THE PLEASURE HAS GONE OUT OF IT!



AS HER HANDS HIT THE ROLLED BRIM OF HER BERET, BRINGING IT DOWN OVER HER FACE AND NECK...

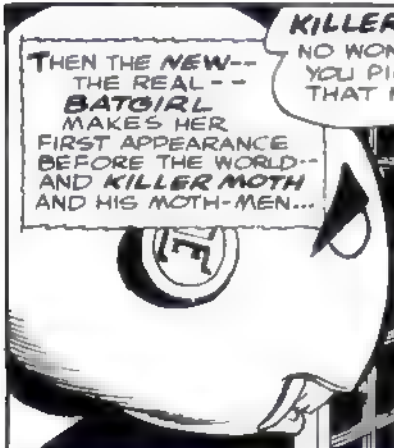


...HER FINGERS PULL AT HER SKIRT-- WHICH REVERSES AND BECOMES A CAPE...

...SHE TOUCHES HER BOOTS, ROLLING UP THEIR FLAPS...



...AND HER HANDBAG REVERSES ITSELF TO FORM HER SPECIALLY-DESIGNED WEAPONS BELT...



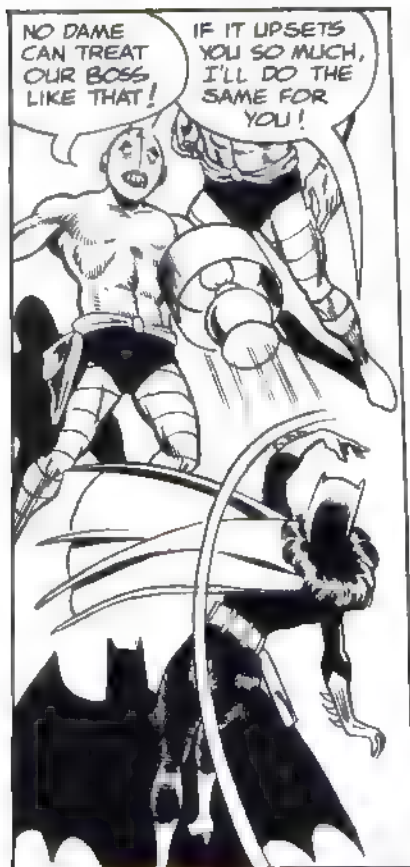
THEN THE NEW-- THE REAL-- BATGIRL MAKES HER FIRST APPEARANCE BEFORE THE WORLD-- AND KILLER MOTH AND HIS MOTH-MEN...

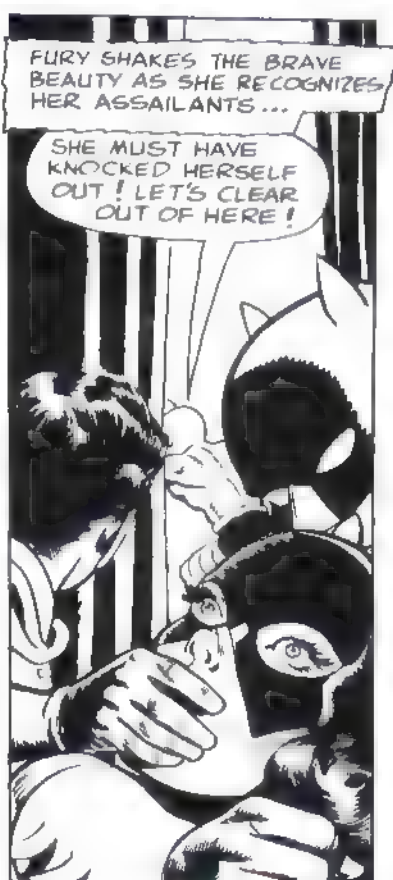
KILLER MOTH--

NO WONDER YOU PICKED THAT NAME!



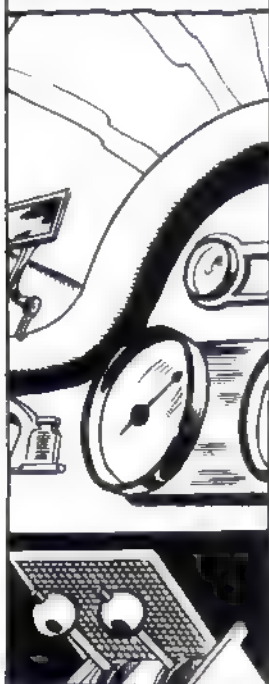
BATGIRL AGAIN-- HEYY-- A HORRIBLE THOUGHT JUST HIT ME! DO YOU SUPPOSE SHE'S WORKING WITH BATMAN THE WAY ROBIN DOES?



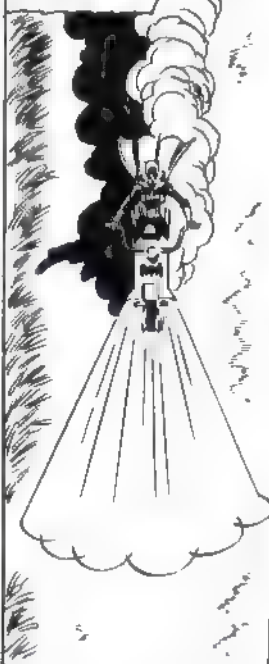




ON THE DASHBOARD OF THE **BATMOBILE** A TRACKING NEEDLE QUIVERS--TURNS--FOLLOWING THE MOVEMENTS OF THE **MOTHPROBABLE**...



WHILE ON THE **BATBIKE**, MULTI-COLOR LIGHTS FLARE AND DIM--INDICATING TO THE **MASKED MAIDEN** WHAT ROAD TO FOLLOW IN HER SECRET PURSUIT...



OUTSIDE **MOTH MANSION**, SOON AFTERWARD...

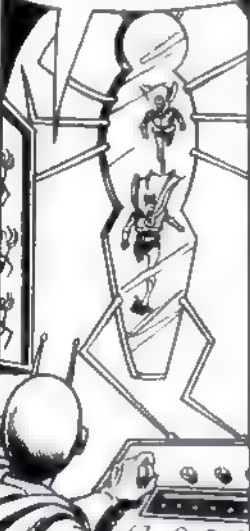
NOW LET'S SINGE THAT **KILLER MOTH** WITH A FEW CHOICE PUNCHES!



IT'LL BE A PLEASURE, I "MOTH" SAY!

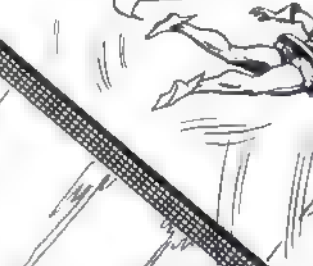
FROM ABOVE, KEEN EYES WATCH THE **DYNAMIC DUO** RACE INTO THE **LEPIDOPTERAL LAIR**...

I CAN'T IMAGINE HOW **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** GOT INVOLVED IN THIS CAPER. BUT I'M READY FOR THEM WITH A TASTE OF **MOTH HOSPITALITY!**



FEATHERY FINGERS TOUCH SPECIAL CONTROLS AND THE **MASKED MAN-HUNTERS** GO SOARING UPWARD INTO THE AIR...

YEOW! WE-- WE'RE FLOATING! IF WE DON'T GET OUT OF THIS BIND, WE'LL BE LIKE DUCKS IN A BARREL FOR THE **MOTH-MEN!**



THIS MUST BE A GRAVITY-FREE CHAMBER--MAKING US WEIGHTLESS--THE SAME SORT OF CHAMBER THE ASTRONAUTS USE TO PRACTICE ORBITAL FLIGHTS IN!



UNKNOWN TO THE STRUGGLING CRIME-FIGHTERS, **BATEIRL** IS HOT ON THEIR HEELS...

ONNN! WAIT! I HAVE AN IDEA! DON'T GO 'WAY NOW!



DON'T GO WAY? IS SHE KIDDING!?

RACING BACK TO THE **MOTHMOBILE**, THE RESOURCEFUL GIRL REMOVES THE MAGNETIC TRACKING DEVICE PUT UNDER ITS FENDER BY **ROBIN**.



I'LL TIE THIS MAGNET ABOUT ONE OF MY BOOTS!

MOMENTS LATER.

THE METAL BASEBOARD HEATING STRIP WILL ANCHOR ME SECURELY THROUGH THE MAGNET-- SO GRAB HOLD, **BATMAN**!

HURRY UP! I HEAR THE **MOTH-MEN** COMING TO TAKE POT SHOTS AT US!



SLIDING HER MAGNETIC BOOT ALONG THE BASEBOARD, THE **DOMINOED DARE-DOLL** WHIPS HER ARM ABOUT AND THE WEIGHTLESS **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** GO FLYING FORWARD...

GO GET 'EM, BOYS!



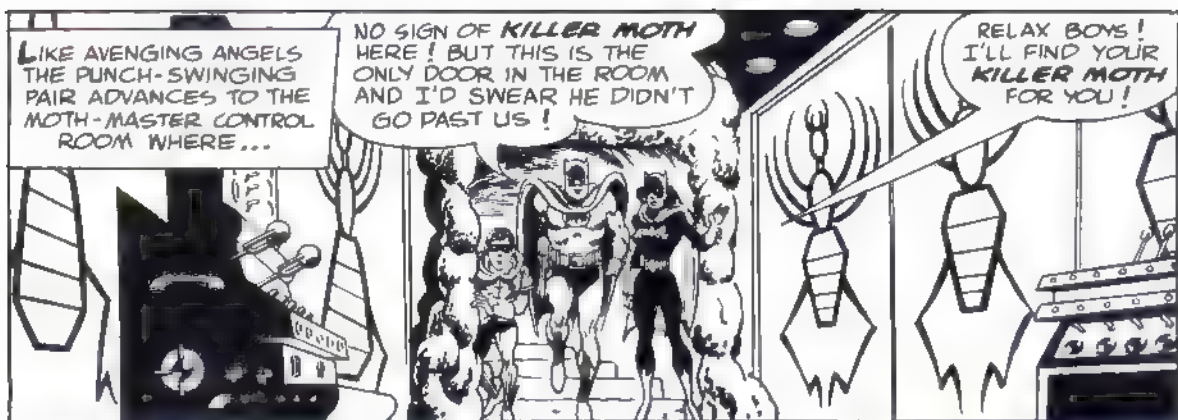
SAVAGE FISTS ROCK AND SOCK IN UNISON

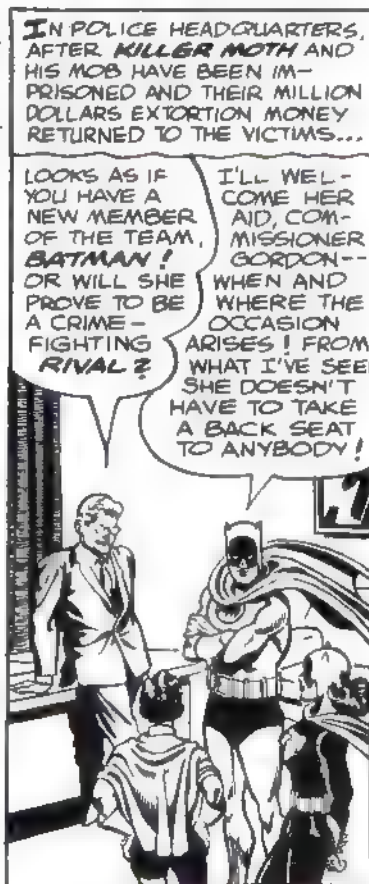


TAKE THIS ONE, **ROBIN**!

HE'S "TOOKEN", **BATMAN**!







OUT of the DIM and MISTY DAYS of the PAST--

STEPS THE SHAGGY, STRAWLIKE FIGURE OF

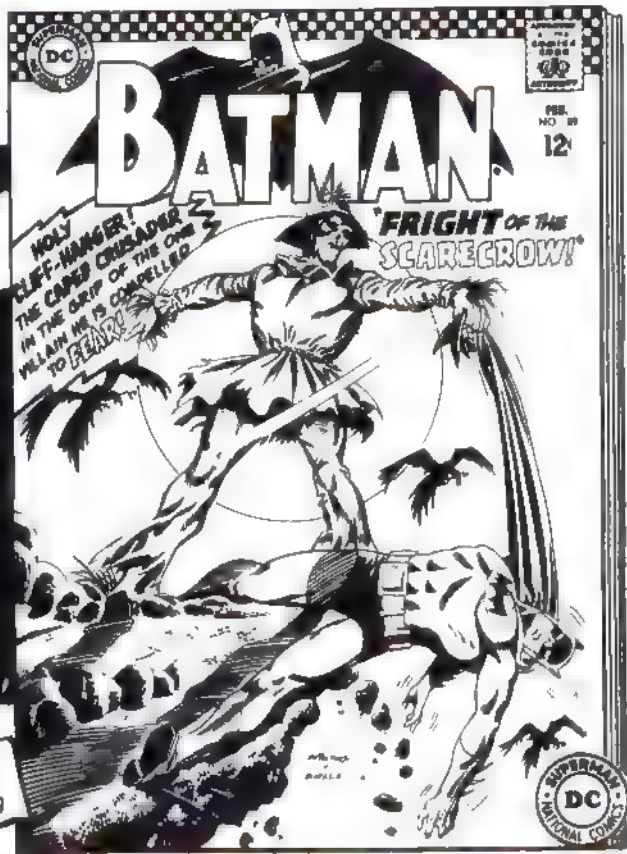
The SCARECROW!

ONCE AGAIN THE PRINCE OF PANIC CLUES IN

BATMAN and ROBIN TO HIS FEAR-FILLED CRIMES! ONCE AGAIN THE **DYNAMIC DUO** IS INTIMIDATED AND TERROR-STRICKEN by the...

FRIGHT of the SCARECROW!

ON SALE DEC. 6th



A BLEAK HILLSIDE IN CENTRAL
MEXICO... A PAIR OF OPEN GRAVES
...AND THE SHADOW OF THE DREAD...

BAT-MAN



... MARK THE BEGINNING OF AN EXCURSION
INTO THE EERIE, THE TERRIFYING, THE
DEADLY! STAND STILL, AND HEAR THE
WIND HOWLING LIKE SOULS IN TORMENT...
SEE THE RISE OF AN ASHEN MOON...
BREATHE DEEPLY AND SNIFF THE
SCENT OF DEATH... AS YOU PREPARE
TO LEARN ...

"The SECRET of the WAITING GRAVES"



QUITE A BASH THE
MUERTOS ARE PITCHING!

THEY CAN WELL
AFFORD IT!

SO ORIGINAL...TO HAVE
THE PARTY HERE, IN THEIR
FAMILY BURIAL GROUND!

WHERE'S THAT
HANDSOME
BRUCE WAYNE?

SEÑORES AND SEÑORAS
...YOUR ATTENTION, PLEASE!
THE TIME HAS COME FOR SPORT!

WILL THOSE PARTICIPATING
IN THE BALLOON RACES
PLEASE TAKE THEIR PLACES?

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MOMENTS LATER, S X DARING GENTLEMEN RISE INTO THE INKY SKY...



HIGHER AND HIGHER THEY RISE! BREEZES SEPARATE THE DANGLING COMPETITORS! ONE, **PEDRO VALDES**, DRIFTS AWAY, AND...



LIKE A STONE, THE HORRIFIED MEXICAN DROPS... WHEN SUDDENLY, A DARK FIGURE STREAKS FROM THE SHADOWS... SPEEDS TOWARD THE EDGE OF THE CLIFF!





I MIGHT BE ABLE
TO CARRY HIM PAST
THE ROCKS...

AND INTO
THE RIVER!



THEN, AS THE STUNNED VALDES
REACHES THE SAFETY OF THE NEAR
BANK...



THE BATMAN...!
ALWAYS I HAVE
THOUGHT OF YOU AS
AN AMERICAN LEGEND!
NEVER DID I DREAM THAT
YOU WOULD SAVE MY LIFE

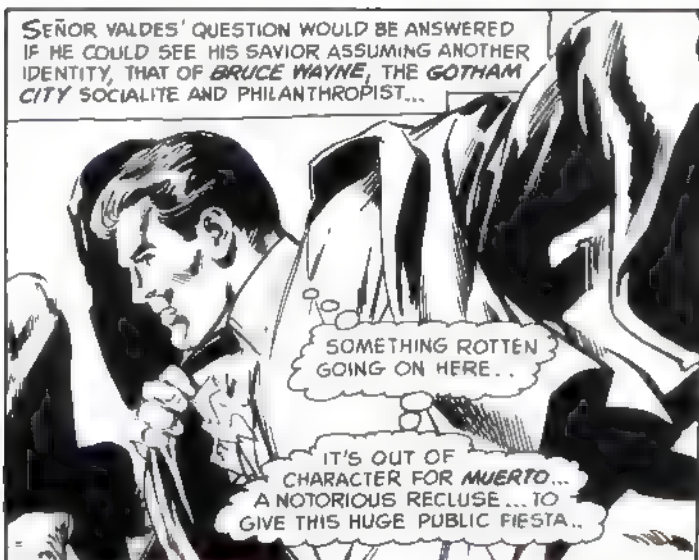


FOR THAT YOU
CERTAINLY DID...

CARAMBA! HE
HAS VANISHED! WAS
THIS A MAN...OR
A WRAITH?!



SEÑOR VALDES' QUESTION WOULD BE ANSWERED IF HE COULD SEE HIS SAVIOR ASSUMING ANOTHER IDENTITY, THAT OF **BRUCE WAYNE**, THE **GOTHAM CITY SOCIALITE** AND **PHILANTHROPIST**...



SOMETHING ROTTEN GOING ON HERE...

IT'S OUT OF CHARACTER FOR **MUERTO**... A NOTORIOUS RECLUSE... TO GIVE THIS HUGE PUBLIC FIESTA...



...AND INVITE EVERY SOCIAL BUTTERFLY IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE!

BATMAN DIDN'T LEARN MUCH ON HIS BRIEF TOUR OF THE ESTATE...

EXCEPT THAT SOMEONE IS KEEPING FALCONS TRAINED TO KILL!



AH, BRUCE! IT IS A PLEASURE TO HAVE YOU WITH US AGAIN!

YOU HAVE SOME LOVELY LAND, **SEÑOR!** AND A LOVELY WIFE!

DID YOU ENJOY YOUR WALK?

ONE DOES NOT EXPECT SUCH A YOUTHFUL AMERICAN TO BE SO WELL-MANNERED!



SHE CAN'T BE ANY OLDER THAN I...YET SHE SPEAKS AS THOUGH I WERE A CHILD!

YOU ALSO **DANCE** SUPERBLY! WE MUST GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER **BETTER!**

SHE'S YOUNG, VERY BEAUTIFUL... BUT THERE'S A STRANGE FEELING OF **MUSTINESS** ABOUT HER!



I SEE VALDES IS BACK! APPARENTLY HIS DUNKING DIDN'T DO HIM ANY PERMANENT HARM!

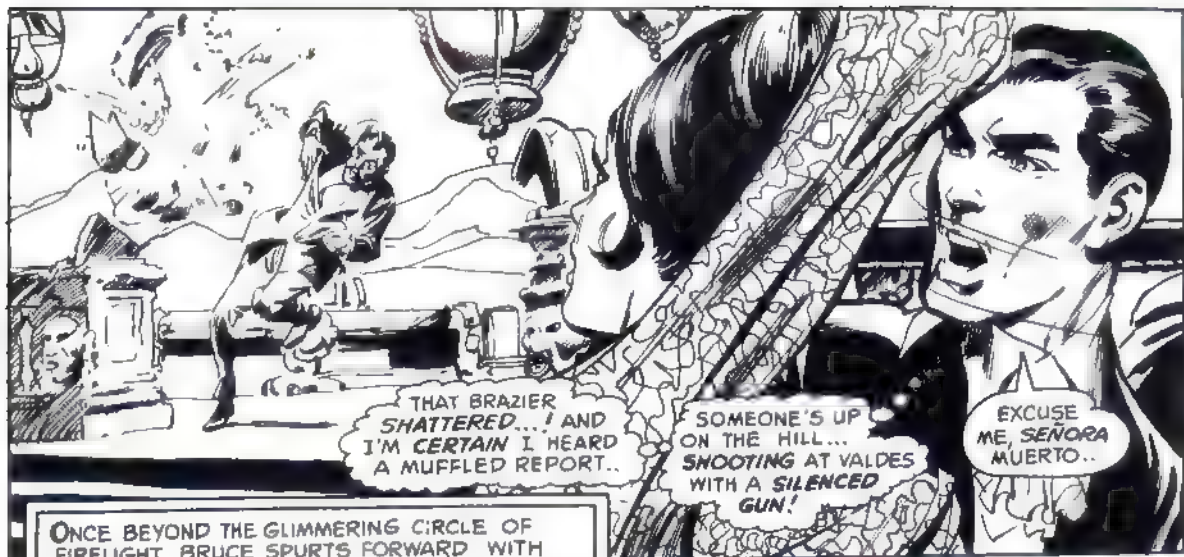
WONDER WHY HE WAS SINGLED OUT FOR A MURDER ATTEMPT?

FOR NOW, I'D BETTER CONCENTRATE ON BEING CHARMING!

QUITE AN IDEA YOU AND JUAN HAD...! I'VE NEVER BEEN TO A PARTY IN A GRAVEYARD BEFORE!



MOST PEOPLE FEAR DEATH! JUAN AND I CHOOSE TO LAUGH AT IT!



THAT BRAZIER
SHATTERED...! AND
I'M CERTAIN I HEARD
A MUFFLED REPORT...

SOMEONE'S UP
ON THE HILL...
SHOOTING AT VALDES
WITH A SILENCED
GUN!

ONCE BEYOND THE GLIMMERING CIRCLE OF
FIRELIGHT, BRUCE SPURTS FORWARD WITH
INHUMAN SPEED, SHEDDING HIS FINERY AS
HE GOES...

THEY'RE ABOUT A
HUNDRED YARDS
FARTHER... BEHIND
THOSE BOULDERS.

NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT VALDES.
EXCEPT PRAY HE STAYS OUT OF THE
LINE OF FIRE FOR A FEW MORE SECONDS.



AIEEE...! WHAT
MANNER OF
MONSTER...?

NEVER HAVE MY
EYES SEEN SUCH
A TERRIFYING
CREATURE!

AS I HOPED...
MY STARTLING
APPEARANCE
IS SPOOKING
THEM!



MANUEL
HELP US!

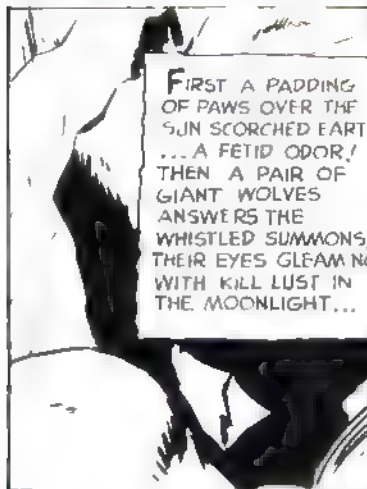
HE IS MORE
THAN FLESH
CAN FIGHT!

A BULLET
WILL STILL
THIS BATMAN!

GRIMLY, DESPERATELY, THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES... THE MURMUR OF NIGHT BREEZES BROKEN ONLY BY THE PANTING OF THE WOULD BE ASSASSINS AND THE SOFT STACCATO SOUNDS OF COMBAT...



ABRUPTLY, ANOTHER SOUND... THE SHRILL SCREECH OF A HIGH PITCHED WHISTLE



FIRST A PADDING OF PAWS OVER THE SUN SCORCHED EARTH ... A FETID ODOR! THEN A PAIR OF GIANT WOLVES ANSWERS THE WHISTLED SUMMONS, THEIR EYES GLEAMING WITH KILL LUST IN THE MOONLIGHT...



AS THOUGH SHOT FROM A CANNON, THE BATMAN LEAPS UPWARD...



DO NOT AIM
TO KILL!

SI! IT IS MUCH
BETTER TO MERELY
BRING HIM DOWN...

...AND LET THE
PETS OF OUR
MASTER FINISH
THEIR WORK!

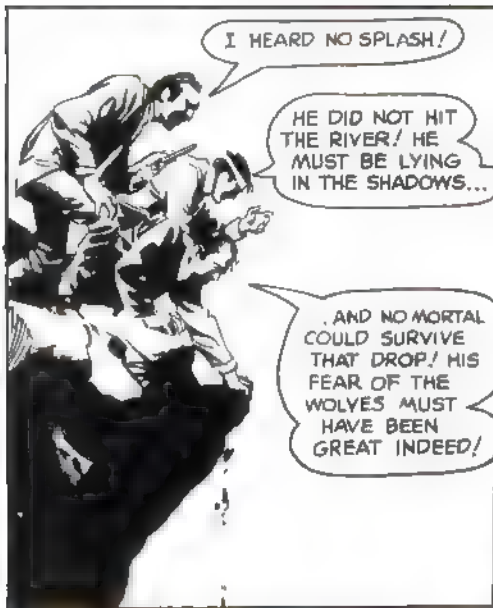


BUT BEFORE THE THUGS
CAN TRIGGER THEIR RIFLES,
THE BATMAN ONCE MORE
LEAPS...OUT, AWAY FROM
THE TREE! FOR A MOMENT,
HE SOARS AS GRACEFULLY
AS HIS NIGHT-FLYING
NAMESAKE...



...THEN PLUNGES
OVER THE EDGE OF
THE CLIFF AND HURLS
TOWARD THE JAGGED
STONE FLOOR BELOW!...





I HEARD NO SPLASH!

HE DID NOT HIT THE RIVER! HE MUST BE LYING IN THE SHADOWS...

AND NO MORTAL COULD SURVIVE THAT DROP! HIS FEAR OF THE WOLVES MUST HAVE BEEN GREAT INDEED!



AT THAT MOMENT, THE MUERTOS ARE CONFERRING IN LOW VOICES...

THOSE BUNGLERS AND THEIR GUNS! THEY HAVE FAILED!

THEN, DEAR HUSBAND, WE MUST ATTEND TO VALDES OURSELVES!



SEÑOR VALDES, YOU APPEAR UNHAPPY! WE HAVE A THING TO SHOW YOU THAT WILL GIVE YOU JOY...

COME! IT IS IN THE OLD MONASTERY!



SO IT IS THAT THE TRIO STROLLS TOWARD THE RUIN, ALONG THE CLIFF-EDGE...

WISH ME TO SEE...WOULD IT BE A FLOWER, PERHAPS?

THE SEÑOR IS VERY WISE!

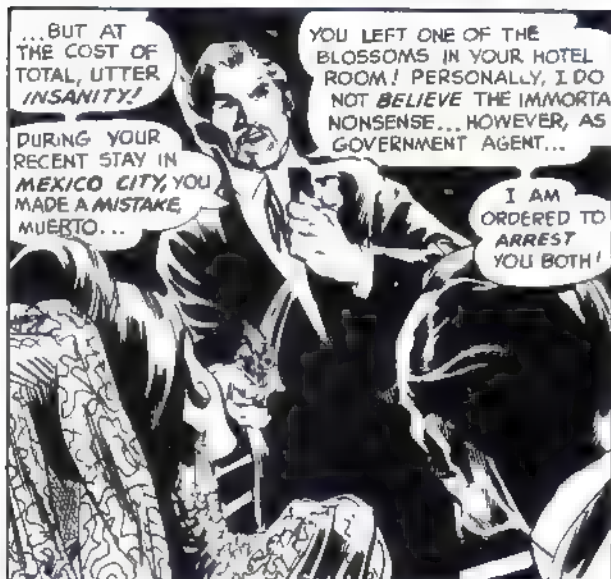
IT WILL PLEASE YOU, SEÑOR VALDES. IT MAY EVEN BE WHAT YOU SEEK!



THE MUERTOS AND THEIR PREY JUST ABOVE ME!

IT'S DOUBLY FORTUNATE I LEFT MY ROPE HANGING AT THIS PARTICULAR SPOT...

I FIGURED I MIGHT NEED IT TO GET ME TO THE CLIFF BOTTOM IN A HURRY... BUT I DIDN'T FORESEE THAT IT WOULD SAVE MY LIFE...OR PROVIDE A CONVENIENT LISTENING POST!







THEN, A CLOYINGLY SWEET SCENT FILLS BATMAN'S NOSTRILS ... AND HIS BRAIN IS AFIRE...

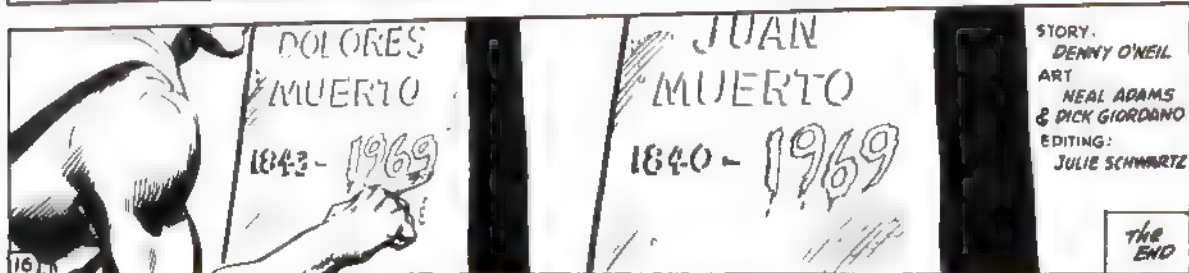
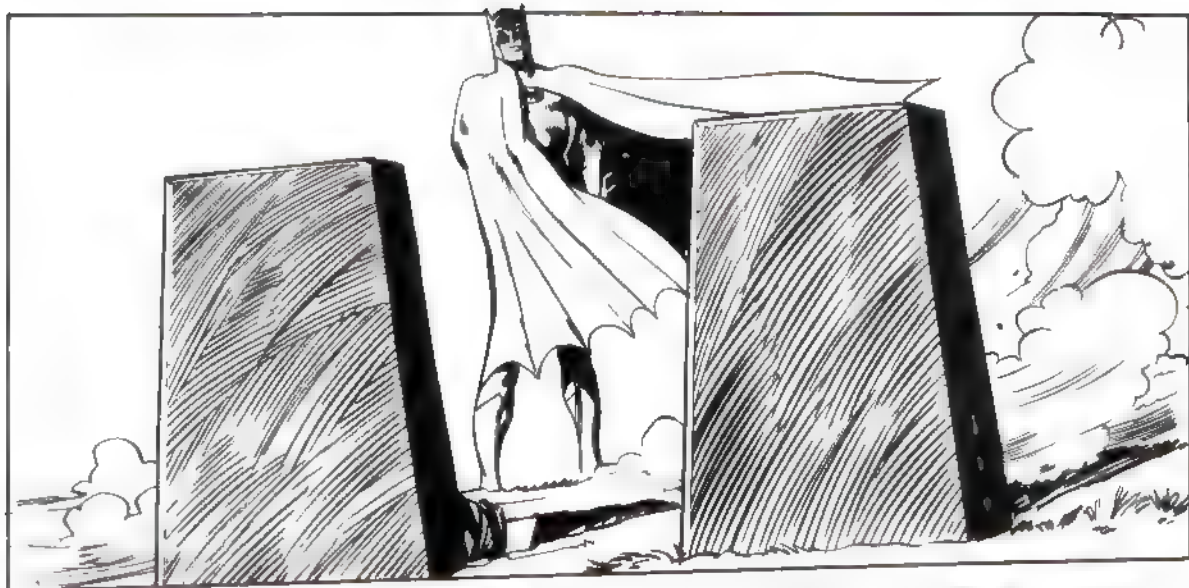












UNBELIEVABLE AND FANTASTIC!



TWO
SUPER
HITS
COMING
FROM
D.C.
ON SALE
NOV. 18th



STORY BY:
FRANK
ROBBINS

MAN OR BAT?

ART BY:
NEAL ADAMS
&
DICK GIORDANO

Gotham City...in the Lab Office of Biochem, Ltd., Wholesaler of Rare Biochemicals ..



...WHERE AN INTENT HEIST-GANG WORKS, UNAWARE OF A SILENT WATCHER, HANGING POISED ABOVE THEM...



AH-H-H--
THEY'VE
CRACKED IT!
NOW TO MAKE
A GRAND-
ENTRANCE
LIKE MY IDOL--
THE BATMAN--
AND SCARE
THEM OF--
EH?!



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T-THE
BATMAN!



WHY
DID
THIS
HAVE TO
HAPPEN
NOW?
NOW--
OF ALL
TIMES?



SO NEAR--AND
I CAN'T TOUCH IT!
BUT I MUST
HAVE IT...!

GOT HIM
TIED UP,
BOYS...
LET HIM
HAVE IT!



JUST HOLD HIM
STEAD-- YAH-H!
**ANOTHER
BATMAN?!**

SKRE-EK!



ANOTHER...?
**SKREEK!
SKREEK!**
THERE IS--ONLY--
ONE--BATMAN!

MY MYSTERIOUS ALLY
FROM THE MUSEUM OF
NATURAL HISTORY
CAPER*! HE'S COME
TO HELP ME AGAIN!

NOT THAT I
WAS IN REAL
TROUBLE, FRIEND--
BUT YOU SURE
HELPED MAKE IT
SHORT AND
SWEET!

*"CHALLENGE OF THE
MAN-BAT!" IN:
DETECTIVE COMICS #400

SKREEK! IT
WAS IN MY OWN
SELFISH INTERESTS
TO END IT QUICKLY,
BATMAN--BECAUSE...

...THERE'S SOMETHING IN
THAT SAFE I MUST
HAVE--FAST!

HOLD IT! WE JUST
FOUGHT TO PREVENT
A THEFT... AND UNTIL I
GET THE POLICE HERE,
NOTHING
IS TOUCHED!

YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND!
I CAN'T--
WAIT! NO ONE
STOPS ME...

...NOT
EVEN YOU,
BATMAN!

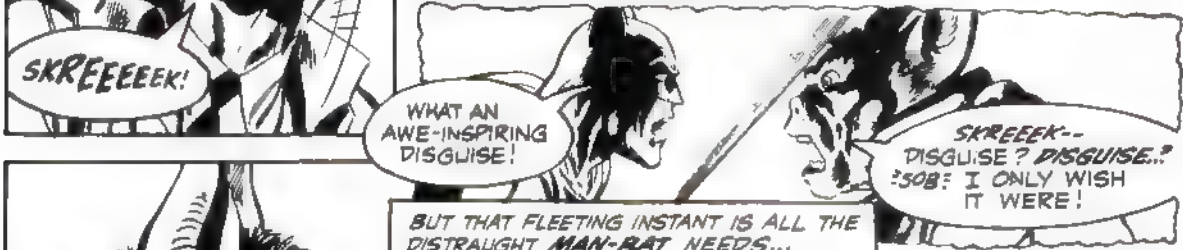
SKREEK! I'M NO
THIEF-- LIKE THOSE
RATS! SEE... I'M
PREPARED TO PAY
FOR WHAT I TAKE!

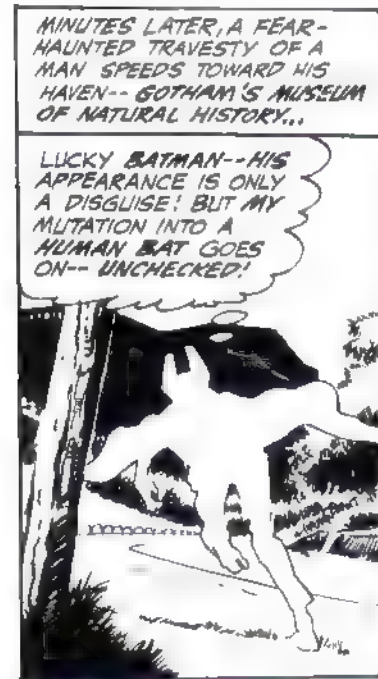
SO YOU ARE! BUT THIS
IS AFTER BUSINESS HOURS...
AND NO WAY TO "BUY"
A MEDICAL PRODUCT!

SKREEK--DON'T
FORCE ME INTO
BEING YOUR--
ENEMY! PLEASE...



HIS MIND REELING, FOR A BRIEF FLASH THE BATMAN
HAS A SUBLIMINAL RECALL...





WHILE A MAN IN THE GUISE OF A BAT--BUT NEVER IN DANGER OF LOSING HIS HUMAN IDENTITY--COMES TO HIS SENSES

WHAT TERRIBLE INNER CONFLICT TORTURES THAT CREATURE?

IS HE A HUMAN BAT--OR A BAT WITH HUMAN TRAITS?

SPEEDING AWAY AFTER NOTIFYING THE POLICE TO PICK UP THE HEIST GANG...

HE SAID HE'D PAY FOR WHATEVER HE TOOK! BUT WHAT WAS IT?

AND HOW CAN IT SAVE HIM?

I ONCE SAID HE'D MAKE A FORMIDABLE FRIEND--OR FOE! IS THIS TO BE THE DECISIVE HOUR--WHEN IT CAN GO EITHER WAY?

I MUST FIND HIM, PERHAPS IN THE MUSEUM, WHERE I FIRST MET HIM?

AT BATMAN'S DESTINATION, ANOTHER SEEKS ENTRANCE...

YOU MUST LET ME IN! I'M HIS FIANCEE FRANCINE LEE--I MUST SEE HIM!

I DUNNO, MISS--HE'S THE ONLY ONE PERMITTED IN AFTER HOURS! --EH? BATMAN--HERE?

BATMAN? OH, THANK HEAVEN--MAYBE YOU CAN HELP ME!

WHO CAN'T SHE SEE?

PROF LANGSTROM--OUR...ER.. BAT-SPECIALIST! HE'S BUSY PREPARING AN EXHIBIT, AFTER A RUSH TRIP TO CHICAGO!

BUT--THAT'S THE POINT! KIRK NEVER WENT TO CHICAGO! I PHONED HIS MOTHER! SHE ISN'T SICK AT ALL! AND HE HASN'T BEEN HOME HERE, IN DAYS!

HMMM... SOUNDS LIKE AN ELABORATE COVER-UP, MISS LEE! AND I'M AFRAID I KNOW WHY! COME ON

WHILE IN AN UPSTAIRS
SECLUDED LAB ADJOINING
THE BAT-EXHIBIT HALL...

NOW--THE MOMENT OF
TRUTH! WILL THIS RARE
COMPOUND DO WHAT IT'S
FORMULATED TO DO?



SUDDENLY, HIS BAT SENSITIZED
HEARING DETECTS
FAINT SOUNDS...

FOOTSTEPS!
ONE--A
WOMAN'S!

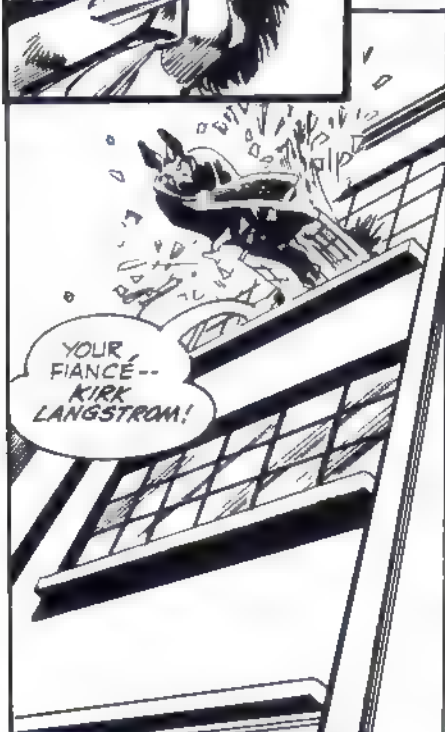
SKREEEEK!

EEEEEE!
WHO-- WHAT
IS THAT? WHERE
IS KIRK?
WHAT'VE YOU
DONE WITH
HIM?

JUST AS
I FEARED--
BRACE
YOURSELF,
MISS LEE!
"THAT"
IS...



YOUR
FIANCE--
KIRK
LANGSTROM!



A THREE-STORY
DROP! HE'LL
BE KILLED...



BUT ALMOST AS IF ON WINGS...

CONTINUING HIS HEADLONG FLIGHT, THE MAN-BAT SEEKS THE SHELTERING GLOOM OF GOTHAM'S CENTRAL PARK!



HE--HE'S ALIVE!
BUT--HOW
CAN YOU BE
SO SURE IF--
HE'S--KIRK?



ONE FINAL
CLINCHER
CONVINCED
ME,
FRANCINE!

WHEN HE FIRST
SAW YOU, HIS VOCAL
CORDS FROZE... BUT
HIS SAD, CONTORTED
MOUTH FORMED ONE
WORD THAT I LIP-
READ... FRANCINE!"



**CURSE
BATMAN!**

MY ONLY REFUGE--
MY ONE CHANCE
AT NORMALCY--
DESTROYED!



THIS SYNTHESIZED
BIOCHEM CAL-I
RECOGNIZE IT! A
COUNTER-ACTIVE
GRAND STIMULANT--
AND BIOCHEM, LTD. IS
THE ONLY SOURCE FOR
IT IN THE U.S.A.!



BUT I HAVE THE ESSENTIAL
ELEMENTS FOR COMPOUNDING
IT--IN MY BATCAVE!

IF I CAN
ONLY FIND KIRK
IN TIME!



SKREEK!
SKREEK!

WHERE CAN I
HIDE NOW--
WHERE CAN I
FIND ANOTHER
SOURCE FOR
RECIDIVISM...

BEFORE
THE MUTATION
PROCESS IS--
IRREVERS-
IBLE?



WHERE DO
I GO...WITH
TIME RUNNING
OUT SO FAST?
WITH EVERY
PASSING MOMENT
I FEEL NEW
CHANGES
TAKING PLACE
IN MY BODY!

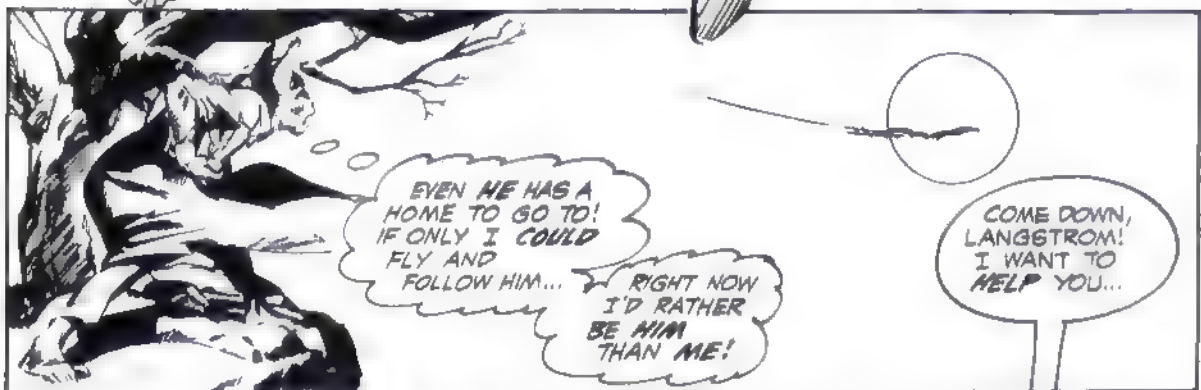


LANGSTROM!
COME DOWN--
DON'T DO
ANYTHING
FOOLISH!



SKREEK!

SKREEK!
BATMAN'S
FOUND ME--
SO SOON!?



EVEN HE HAS A
HOME TO GO TO!
IF ONLY I COULD
FLY AND
FOLLOW HIM...

RIGHT NOW
I'D RATHER
BE HIM
THAN ME!

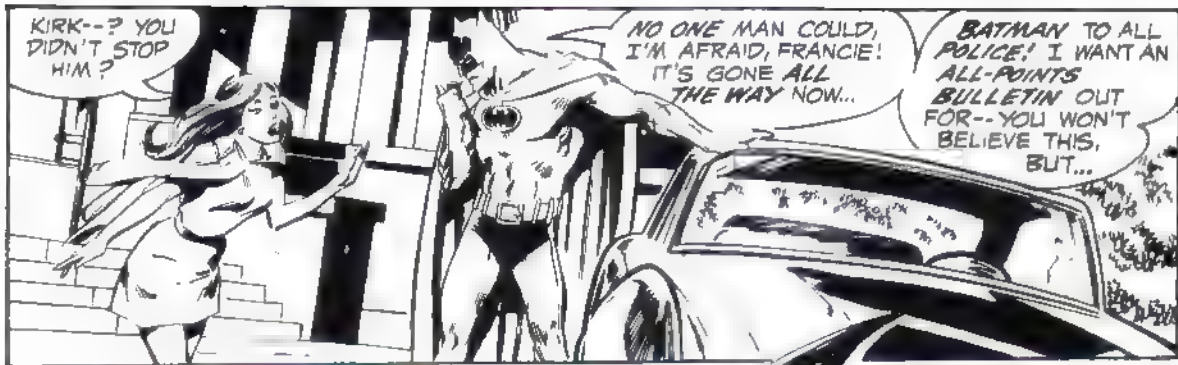
COME DOWN,
LANGSTROM!
I WANT TO
HELP YOU...



SKREEK!!
YOU--BATMAN,
HELP ME?

HAR!!





THEN, AS THE SONAR-GUIDED CREATURE UNERRINGLY DIVES FOR A PRACTICALLY UNSEEN CREVICE...



FRANTICALLY, THE GIANT MAN-BAT CLAWS AT THE NARROW WALLS-- FIGHTING TO FORCE HIS CLUMSY HULK INSIDE...



FINALLY, HIS CLAWED FINGERS TORN AND BLEEDING, HE COLLAPSES EXHAUSTED, INSIDE...





WHERE AM I? THIS IS NO ORDINARY CAVE...

SKREEK!
THIS COULD ONLY BE--
THE BATMAN'S HOME... THE BATCAVE!

SUDDENLY...*

ARGH-H...!

*OUTSIDE, BATMAN PRESSES THE DASHBOARD BUTTON THAT ACTIVATES THE CAMOUFLAGED CAVE-DOOR... AND THE INSIDE LIGHTS...



GOOD OLD BATCAVE! NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE NEEDING YOU SO SOON! BUT MUST HAVE THAT FORMULA READY-- WHEN THE POLICE GRAB LANGSTROM!

TEMPORARILY BLINDED, A FRANTIC MAN-BAT SEARCHES MADLY FOR HIS ONLY KNOWN ESCAPE ROUTE...



HAS TO BE--
BATMAN RETURNING!

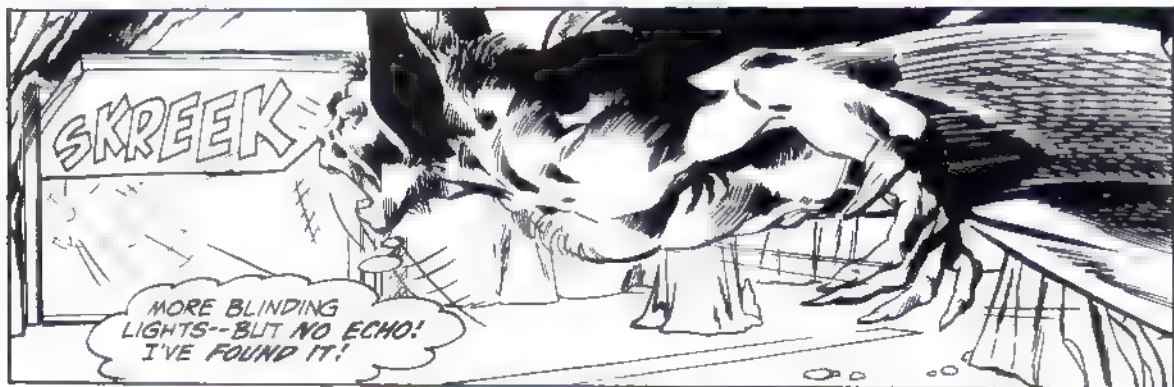
I'VE LOST MY BEARINGS! WHERE IS THAT EXIT?



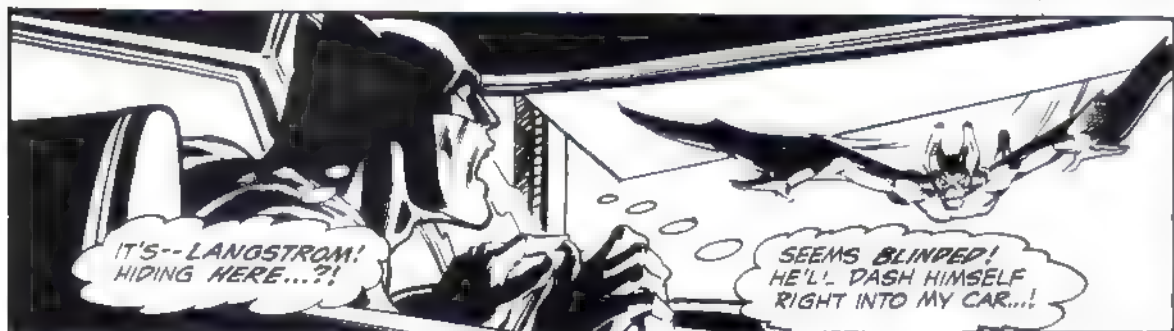
NOCTURNAL FOOL! I'VE FORGOTTEN MY GREATEST ACQUIRED WEAPON FOR SURVIVAL--**SONAR!**



WHEN I DON'T GET
A BOUNCE-BACK--
I'VE FOUND MY EXIT!



MORE BLINDING
LIGHTS--BUT NO ECHO!
I'VE FOUND IT!



IT'S-- LANGSTROM!
HIDING HERE...?!

SEEMS BLINDED!
HE'LL DASH HIMSELF
RIGHT INTO MY CAR...!



REACTING INSTINCTIVELY TO
SAVE THE SIGHTLESS
CREATURE, HE JAMS ON
THE BRAKES--AND LEAPS
OUT...

MUST DIVERT
HIM...



BUT THE MAN-BAT'S NATURAL
SONAR HAS ALREADY WARNED
HIM--AND VEERING TO AVOID
THE CAR, HE SMASHES
INTO THE NEW OBSTACLE
PUT SUDDENLY IN HIS
PATH...

OOO-F!

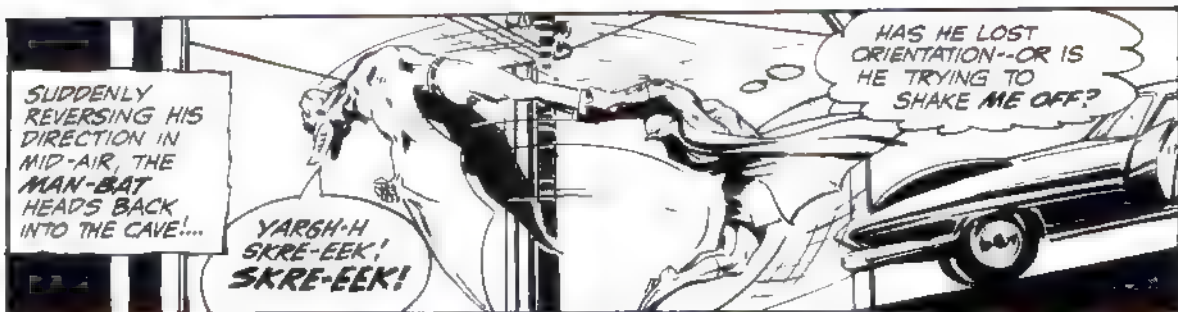


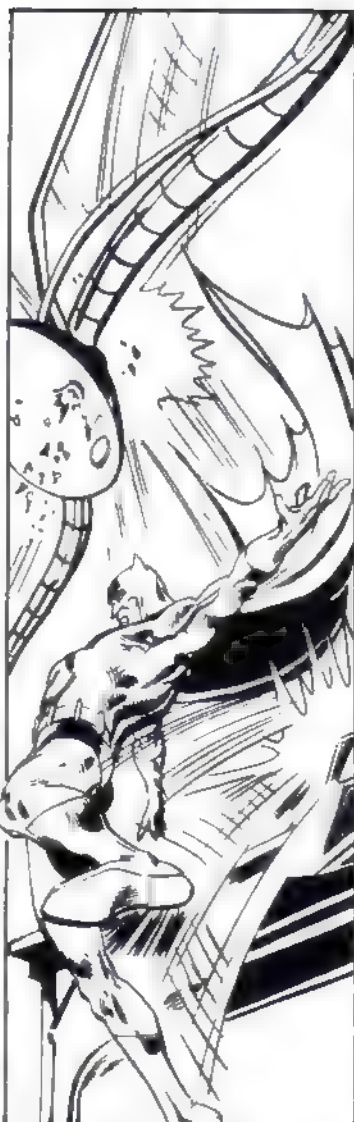
STUNNED BY THE MASSIVE IMPACT,
BOTH FIGHT TO REGAIN THEIR
SENSES--

HE'S STRUGGLING
TO FREE HIMSELF--
LIKE A TERRIFIED,
CORNERED--
ANIMAL!

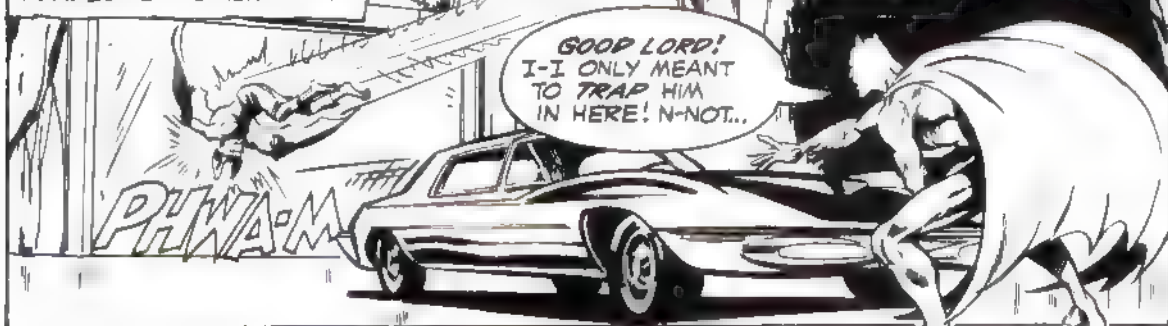
YARGH-H!
SKREEK!

LANGSTROM!
LISTEN TO
ME--I'VE
COME HERE
TO HELP
YOU!





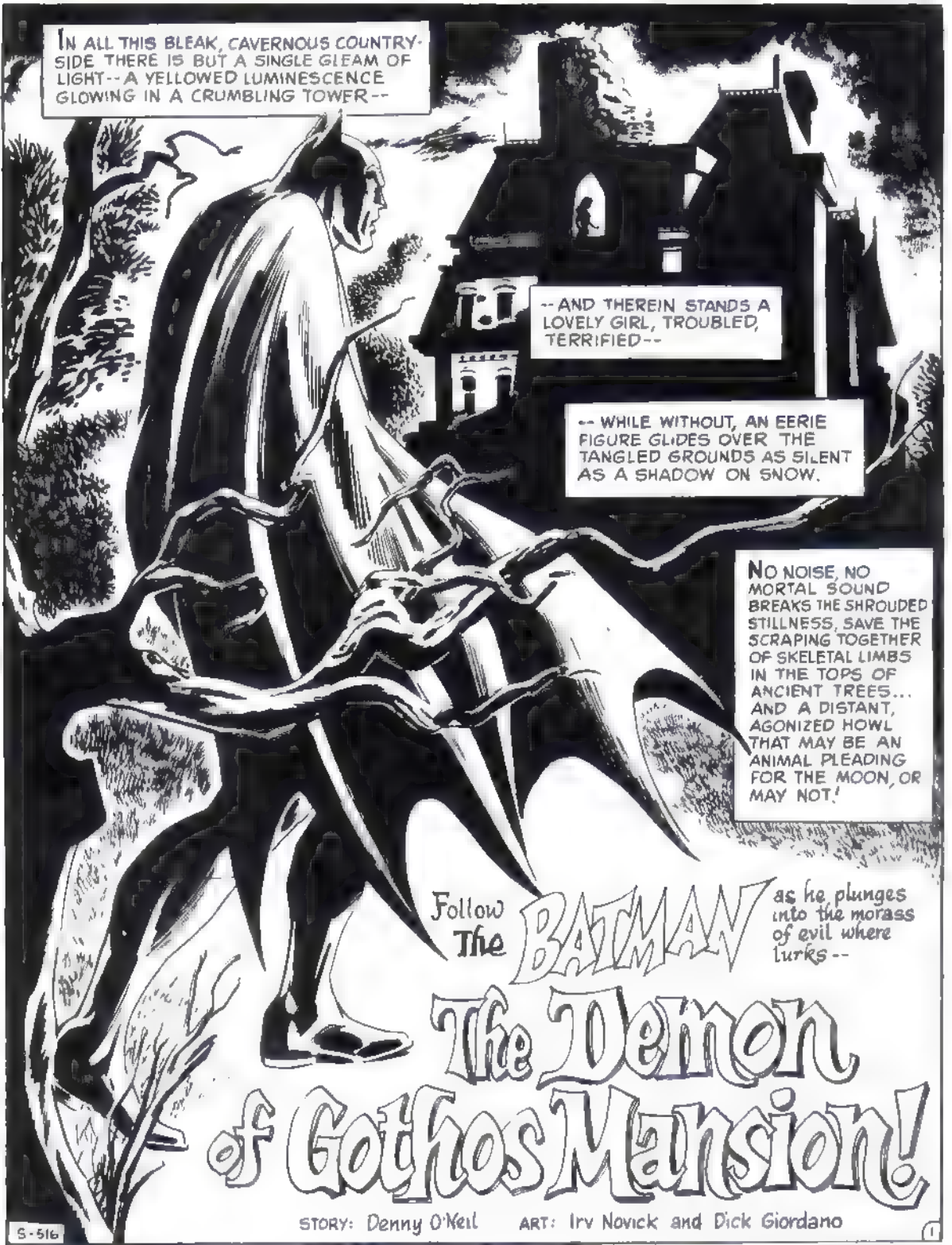
AS THE REMOTE-GUIDED CAR MOVES IN, THE AUTOMATIC DOOR SWIFTLY DESCENDS...TOO SWIFTLY FOR THE MAN-BAT TO CHECK HIS HEADLONG MOMENTUM!...



WHICH WILL IT BE--

MAN OR BAT?

ONLY A FUTURE ISSUE OF DETECTIVE COMICS CAN TELL!



IN ALL THIS BLEAK, CAVERNOUS COUNTRY-
SIDE THERE IS BUT A SINGLE GLEAM OF
LIGHT-- A YELLOWED LUMINESCENCE
GLOWING IN A CRUMBLING TOWER--

-- AND THEREIN STANDS A
LOVELY GIRL, TROUBLED,
TERRIFIED--

-- WHILE WITHOUT, AN EERIE
FIGURE GLIDES OVER THE
TANGLED GROUNDS AS SILENT
AS A SHADOW ON SNOW.

NO NOISE, NO
MORTAL SOUND
BREAKS THE SHROUDED
STILLNESS, SAVE THE
SCRAPING TOGETHER
OF SKELETAL LIMBS
IN THE TOPS OF
ANCIENT TREES...
AND A DISTANT,
AGONIZED HOWL
THAT MAY BE AN
ANIMAL PLEADING
FOR THE MOON, OR
MAY NOT!

Follow
The

BATMAN

as he plunges
into the morass
of evil where
lurks--

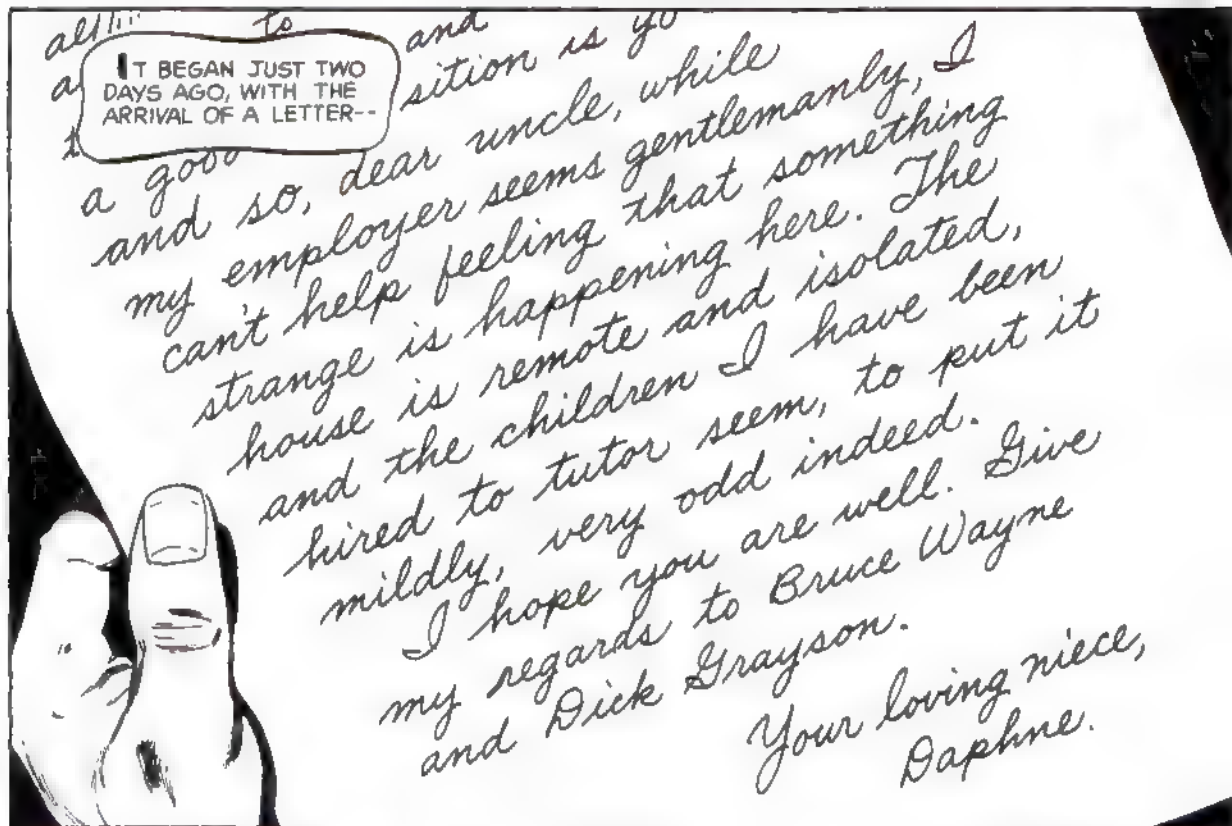
The Demon of Gothos Mansion!

STORY: Denny O'Neil

ART: Irv Novick and Dick Giordano

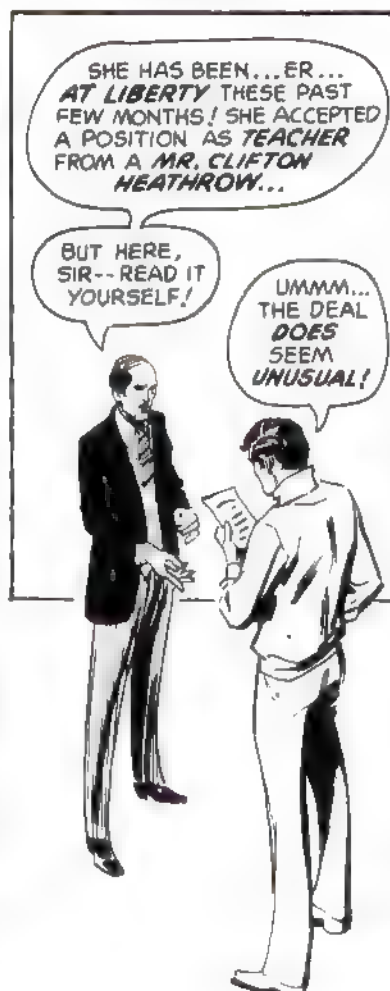
S-516

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INTERESTING MAIL, ALFRED?

INTERESTING-- AND BIZARRE, MASTER BRUCE! IT'S A NOTE FROM MY NIECE, DAPHNE-- PERHAPS YOU REMEMBER HER* --THE ACTRESS?



SHE HAS BEEN...ER... AT LIBERTY THESE PAST FEW MONTHS! SHE ACCEPTED A POSITION AS TEACHER FROM A MR. CLIFTON HEATHROW...

BUT HERE, SIR-- READ IT YOURSELF!

UMMM... THE DEAL DOES SEEM UNUSUAL!



I SUPPOSE THERE'S NO CAUSE FOR WORRY! STILL --

-- STILL, YOU'D LIKE THE BATMAN TO CHECK!

--AND I AGREE!

*NOTE AND YOU REMEMBER HER, READER OF OURS IF YOU THRILLED TO HER FIRST APPEARANCE IN "ANGEL OR DEVIL" BATMAN #216! -- Editor

THUS IT IS THAT THE **CAPED CRUSADER** STANDS ON A BARREN ESTATE IN THE MOUNTAINS A HUNDRED MILES FROM THE NEAREST TOWN--

THOSE FELLOWS APPEAR TO BE **GUARDS!** I **COULD** EVADE THEM--**EASILY!**

--BUT I'M CURIOUS...

...**WHY** WOULD ANYONE POST WATCH-MEN **HERE?** I'LL TEST THEIR **HOSTILITY--** BY **SHOWING** MYSELF!

GOOD EVENING, GENTLEMEN! BIT **NIPPY** FOR THIS TIME OF YEAR, ISN'T IT?

EH--? WHO BE THAT?

--'TIS A GIANT **BAT!**

NONSENSE YOU TALK, EPHRAIM! 'TIS NO MORE THAN A **MAN!** STRIKE A **FLAME--** WE'LL HAVE A LOOK AT HIM!

FEEL FREE! MIND TELLING ME THE NAME OF THIS PLACE?

GOTHOS MANSION-- AND WE'VE NO LIKING FOR **STRANGERS!**

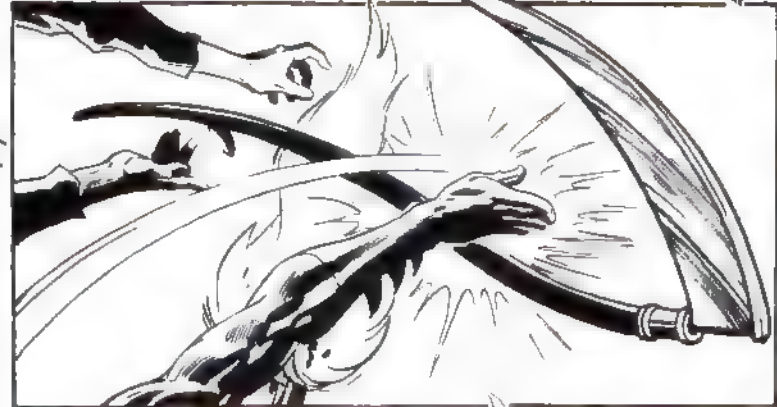
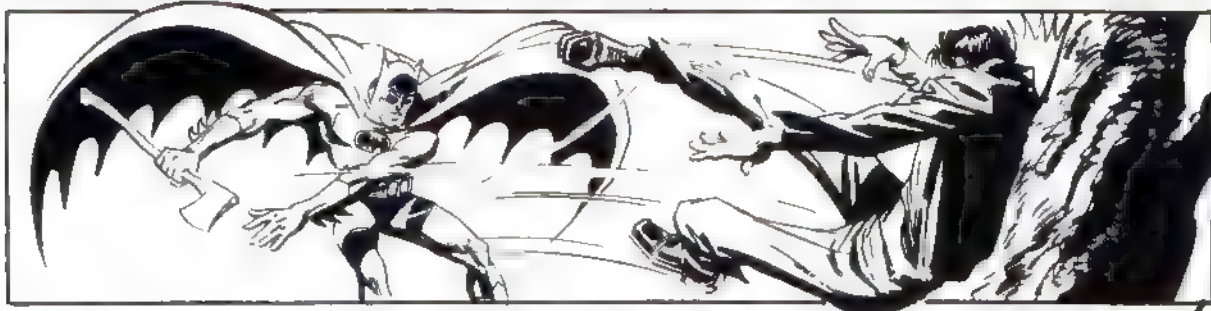
WELL, NOW THAT YOU'VE SEEN ME, I'LL BE STROLLING ON!

BUT NOT FAR--!

WHEN THEY SAID THEY DIDN'T LIKE **STRANGERS**--THEY WEREN'T **KIDDING!**

FORTUNATELY, I WAS **PREPARED** FOR A SNEAK ATTACK!

FOR LONG YEARS, THIS **BATMAN** HAS TRAINED--AND OTHER MEN, ARMED THOUGH THEY BE, ARE NO MATCH FOR HIM



SWIFTLY, NOISELESSLY, **THE BATMAN**
CROSSES THE GROUNDS, AND...

SOMEONE'S
COMING--! I MAY
LEARN MORE
UNSEEN...

WHEN WE POSITION
THE ALTAR, ALL WILL
BE IN READINESS,
ELDER HEATHROW!

EXCELLENT, EXCELLENT!
BE MERRY, FELLOWS OF
THE **COVEN OF GOTHOS**
MANSION--

--TONIGHT, FOR THE
FIRST TIME IN **TWO**
CENTURIES, WE RAISE
THE SPIRIT OF THE
DEMON **BALK--**

THE TRIO CONTINUES THROUGH
THE UNDERBRUSH, LEAVING ONLY
A FAINT SMELL OF MUSK IN
THE CHILL NIGHT AIR --

DAPHNE HAS STUMBLED
INTO TROUBLE -- THE
WORST KIND! A
COVEN IS A GROUP
DEDICATED TO
BLACK MAGIC.

AND I RECALL
THAT **BALK** IS
ONE OF THE
NASTIEST CREATURES
IN MYTHOLOGY!

ELDER HEATHROW
S APPARENTLY THE
CHIEF **WARLOCK--**
AND OBVIOUSLY **MAD--**

WHICH DOESN'T
MAKE HIM ANY
LESS **DANGEROUS!**

THERE'S ONLY
ONE WINDOW
LIT IN THE
HOUSE!



SO THAT'S
WHERE I
BEGIN
LOOKING
FOR DAPHNE!



ALMOST AS THOUGH
HE WERE WEIGHTLESS,
THE BATMAN RISES
UP THE SMOOTH,
STONE TOWER...



PLEASE... **PLEASE**,
MISTER HEATHROW--
LET ME OUT!

YOU HAVE
NO CAUSE FOR
FEAR, MISS
PENNYWORTH!



THE--
BATMAN--!!

I'VE COME
TO TAKE YOU
AWAY FROM
HERE, DAPHNE!



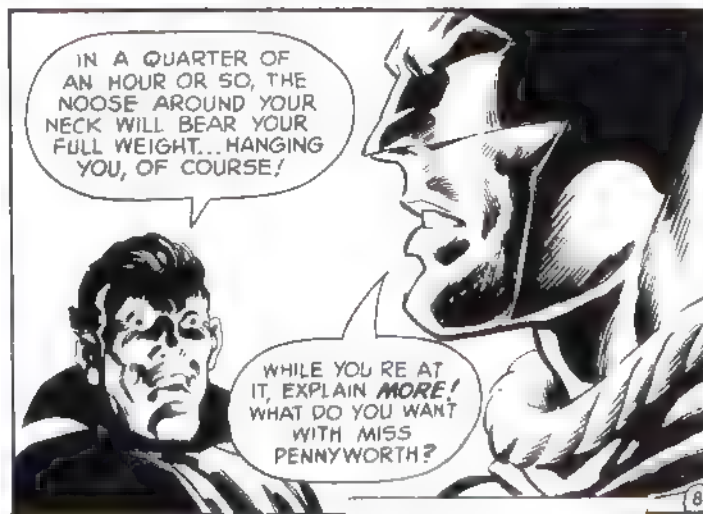
THANK HEAVEN!--
IT'S BEEN HORRID!
THEY MADE ME WEAR
THESE AWFUL, OLD
CLOTHES... THEY'VE
KEPT ME LOCKED
UP...

...AND THE CHILDREN
I WAS HIRED TO
TEACH... I DISCOVERED
THEY'RE NOT **REALLY**
KIDS--THEY'RE A
PAIR OF HIDEOUS
DWARVES!



BUT... *SUDDENLY*... THE ANCIENT FLOOR GIVES WAY... AND BEFORE *THE BATMAN* CAN REACT, HE IS PLUMMETING DOWNWARD...













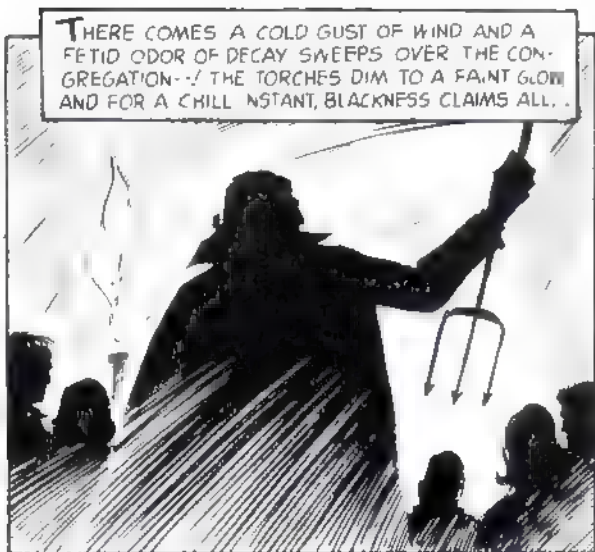
INSIDE, THE COVEN BEGINS A DANCE OF DARKEST MAGIC, AND DEFILES THE EARTH WITH ITS CHANT

Nighty demon, heed us, thy suppli- cants!





HEAR US, O
BALK...UNTO
YOU I GIVE THIS
MAIDEN. THAT
ONCE MORE
YOU MAY STAND
AMONGST US!



THERE COMES A COLD GUST OF WIND AND A
FETID ODOR OF DECAY SWEEPS OVER THE CON-
GREGATION--! THE TORCHES DIM TO A FAINT GLOW
AND FOR A CHILL INSTANT, BLACKNESS CLAIMS ALL..



A WAVERING
FIGURE SEEMS
TO SWELL
FROM THE
DARK, AND
THE ODOR
BECOMES
A CHOKING
STENCH --

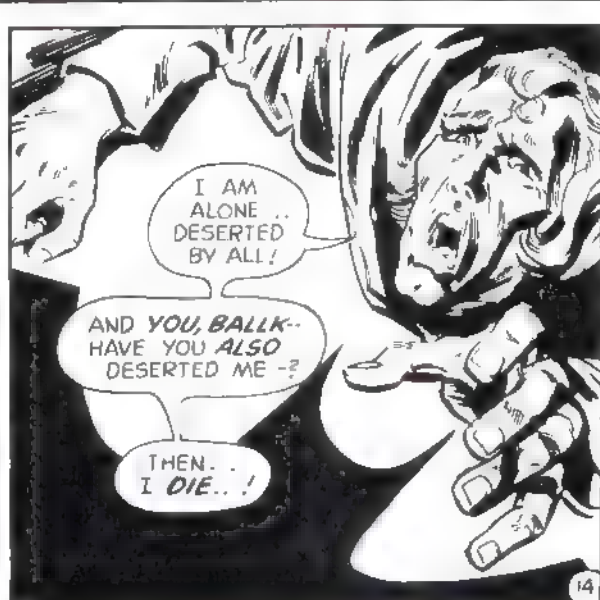


THEN, THE FLAMES
SPURT TO FULL
BRIGHTNESS AGAIN,
AND .

THE CEREMONY IS
OVER, ELDER! YOUR
BALK WILL REMAIN
IN WHATEVER HEL.
SPAWNED HIM.



NO!
THE
DEMON
MUST BE
KILLED





HIS HEART
COULDN'T TAKE
'T, I GUESS!

POOR
TWISTED
SOUL...



YOU'LL BE
ALL RIGHT, DAPHNE!
THE DANGER IS
PAST--FOREVER!

GO TO THE
MANSION! I'LL
JOIN YOU THERE,
AS SOON AS...
I SEE SOMEONE!

HIS BLOOD POUNDING, **THE BATMAN**
RUNS OUT OF THE CHAPEL. HIS EYES
STRAINING UNTIL HE SEES THE WOMAN
HE SEEKS... AND A PURE JOY CATCHES
HIS VOICE AS HE CALLS TO HER.



COME..
COME TO ME

I CAN NOT,
THOUGH, I WISH
WITH ALL MY HEART
I COULD...



IN BESTING
THE COVEN,
YOU HAVE
FREED ME!

FARE THEE
WELL, **BATMAN**

WAIT..
MY LOVE..

FRANTICALLY FOLLOWING, HE
PLUNGES INTO THE FOREST...
AND STOPS, NUMBED, AS HIS
GAZE FASTENS ON AN IMAGE,
FIXED TO A TREE, SHIMMERING
IN THE LIGHT OF A MOON THAT
HAS JUST RISEN...



AND THE
NIGHT IS
QUIET...

End

BIBLIOGRAPHY

COMIC BOOKS

All-Star Comics

(cameo appearance)

#7 (Oct.–Nov. 1941)

(guest appearance)

#36 (Aug.–Sept. 1947)

Batman Comics

From #1 (Sept. 1940)

Batman Miniatures

6 issues

1966

Batman Three-D

#1

1953, repeated in 1966

The Brave and the Bold

#28 (March 1960) (with the Justice League); through #30 (July 1960)

#59, #64, #67–71, #74 on (1964–1971)

80 Page Giant

#5 (Dec. 1964)

#12 (July 1965)

#15 (Oct. 1965) (with Superman)

Detective Comics

From #27 (May 1939)

Giant Batman Annual

7 Issues

1961—Summer 1964

Jerry Lewis Comics

#97

Dec. 1966

Justice League of America

From #1

Oct.—Nov. 1960

New York World's Fair

#2 (with Robin)

1940

Star-Spangled Comics

#65 (Feb. 1947)

#30 (July 1952)

(Robin solos but Batman appears frequently)

SUPERMAN MAGAZINES

Batman appears frequently in:

Superman Comics

Lois Lane

Jimmy Olsen

World's Best

#1

Sept. 1941

World's Finest

#32 (Summer 1941) through #197 (Oct.—Nov. 1970)

#198, 199 (cameo)

#202 (May 1971)

#207 (Nov. 1971)

OTHER MEDIA IN WHICH BATMAN APPEARED

Batman

Animated Cartoons
CBS Network
Fall 1968—Fall 1970

Batman and Robin

Movie Serial
Columbia
Late 1940s

Batman

Movie Serial
Columbia Pictures
1956–1957

Batman

A Signet paperback book
March 1966

Batman

Movie Serial
Columbia
1943

"Batman"

Television Program
1966

Batman and the Fearsome Foursome

Full-length movie
Twentieth Century-Fox
1966
Novelized version
Signet
1966

Batman Versus Three Villains of Doom

A Novel
By Winston Lyon
Signet
1966

Batman Versus the Joker

A Signet paperback book

May 1966

Batman Versus the Penguin

A Signet paperback book

May 1966

"Superman Radio Show"

Batman made frequent appearances in the mid-1940s

Syndicated Newspaper Strip

1943–1945

1966–1971—Ledger Syndicate







BONANZA